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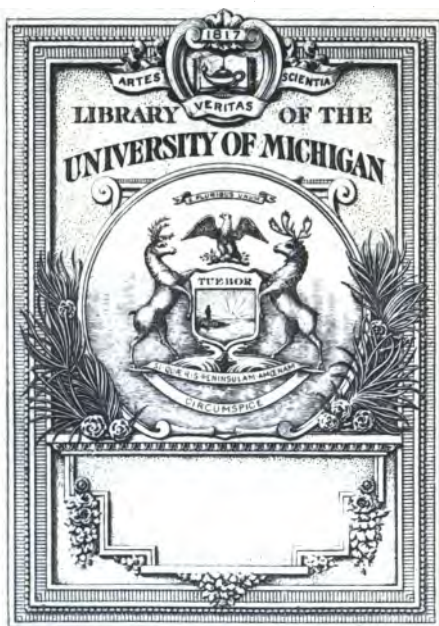
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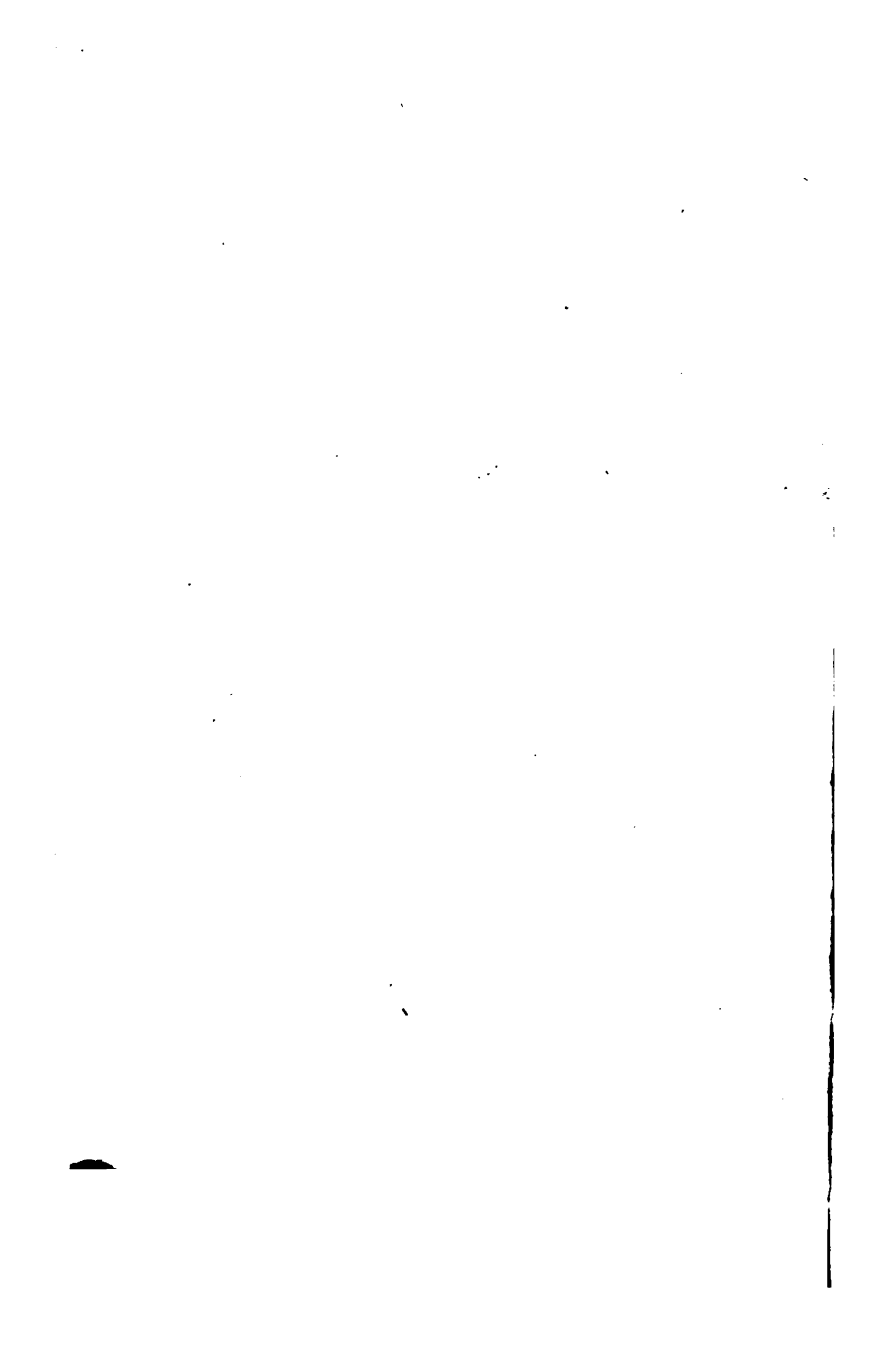
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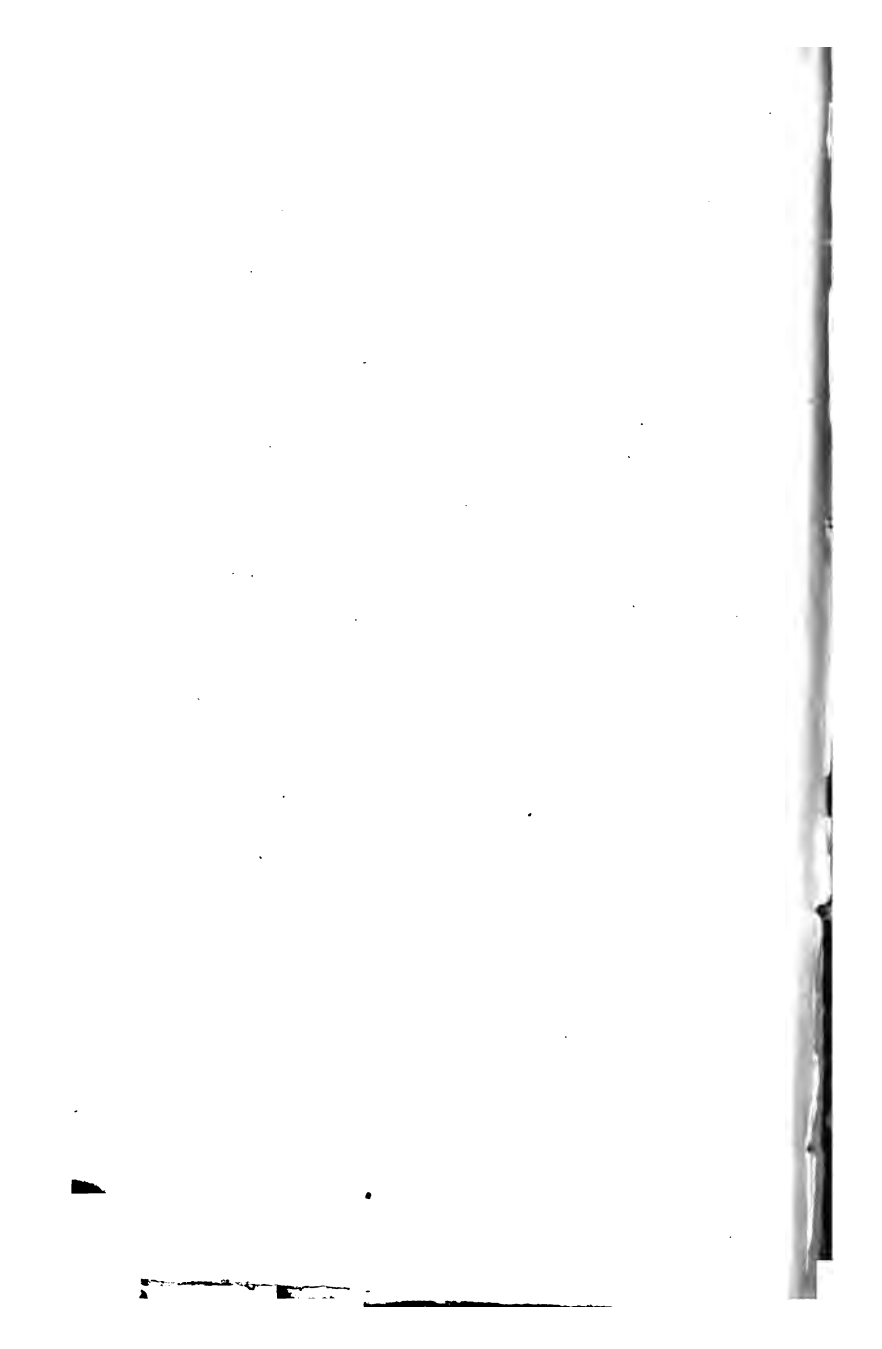
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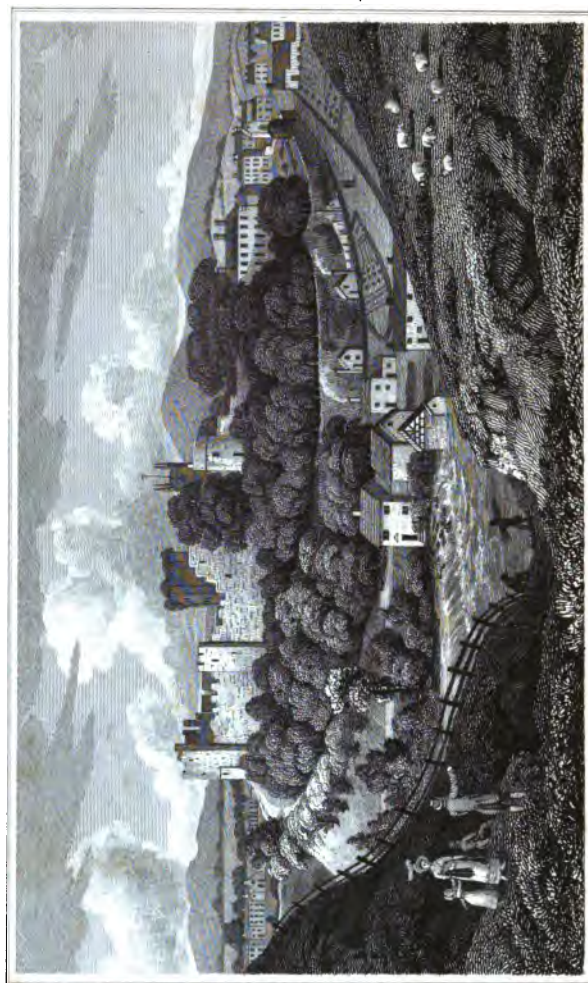
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THE
History and Antiquities
OF
LUDLOW.







Drawn by P. Rogers

W. VIEW OF LUDLOW CASTLE.

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THE
HISTORY & ANTIQUITIES
of the TOWN of

LUDLOW.

AND
ITS ANCIENT CASTLE;

WITH LIVES OF
THE LORD PRESIDENTS,
AND
DESCRIPTIVE AND HISTORICAL ACCOUNTS

OF
GENTLEMEN'S SEATS,

VILLAGES, &c.
IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD;

WITH
OTHER PARTICULARS INTERESTING TO
STRANGERS and RESIDENTS.

LUDLOW;
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Preface.



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LUDLOW is not only remarkable for having been connected with some of the most extraordinary occurrences of past ages, but also for having been in the days of its celebrity, honoured by the presence of men of exalted greatness, or singular endowments: even its present appearance strongly excites attention; and the Traveller beholds with peculiar interest, the venerable remains of its stately Castle, naturally wishing to investigate its history, in such a portable form as we have endeavoured to compile for his information, "culling—

from the lore
Of ages long since past and o'er,
The deeds and names that give renown
To this once famous princely town;
Tracing its ancient pedigree
From Roger of Montgomery,
Who raised those Towers whose ruins now,
Frown o'er the verdant scene below.

Of the long series of events succeeding each other in a course of ages, many, even of the most

most important, are forgotten; and especially in periods of darkness and barbarism, history preserves little more for our information, than dates which mark the lapse of time: hence in seeking for the materials of a local history, the general sources of information are found peculiarly defective.

In the first introductory pages of the work, a compressed account is given of the state of affairs in this district during the Roman and Saxon æras; with a brief Sketch of the History of Mercia, the inhabitants of which, were, as long as they constituted an independent State, engaged in active warfare against the Britons.

From the time of the Norman Conquest distinct historical notices are preserved, relative to Ludlow Castle and public transactions with which it was connected; these have been carefully collected from the old chronicles and other authentic records, the whole forming a regular narrative, which with the History and Biography of the Presidency of Wales, brings the account down to a late period; from which to the present time, the massy fabric of Ludlow Castle, has stood, a durable and striking memorial of the activity and power of our ancestors.

The descriptive part is taken from actual surveys, with extracts from, and a constant comparison with former accounts, illustrated by
passages

passages from the works of antiquarian writers and ancient historians.

As an acceptable addition, to Strangers as well as Residents, correct accounts are added of important charitable and useful Institutions; and as few places can boast a more interesting neighbourhood, the Traveller will without doubt feel gratified by having put into his hands a convenient guide to the numerous surrounding Gentlemen's Seats, Villages, &c. which are briefly but circumstantially described.

From the nature of this work it can pretend to little more than the merit of judicious selection, and it is particularly incumbent on the compiler to acknowledge, that among others, the elegant Historian of the Anglo Saxons; the Author of the interesting History of the Court of Elizabeth, and the learned Authors of the Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain, have supplied important materials.

ERRATA.

Page 55 line 1 dele s in "ensemble"

25 3 for "neice," read niece

80 3 for "Henry's," read Henries

112 2 dele "of"

113 16 for "propably," read probably

240 4 for "together with," read including

Historical Notices,

Introductory to

AN ACCOUNT OF

LUDLOW.



THE history of the remote ages of antiquity is obscure ; for in attempting to trace the succession of events through periods of darkness and barbarity, much is left to conjecture, which necessarily terminates in doubt and uncertainty. It is well known that the aboriginal inhabitants of this island made a last and determined stand against their invading enemies, in that district which had its boundary in, what in later times was called, the Marches of Wales. However this barrier tract might be extended from time to time one way or the other, as either party occasionally gained ground, it is certainly known that Ludlow was early occupied as a military station to withstand the incursions of the Britons, who disputed every foot of ground as they slowly

ly retreated. So strongly are the natural feelings of human nature opposed to injustice and oppression, that not only is all power contemned, but all hazards and difficulties suffered patiently, even life willingly sacrificed by a brave people, in preference to an ignominious and slavish submission.

The Romans are said to have been engaged nearly 200 years in subduing Britain, and it was not till A. D. 75. that Julius Frontinus conquered the warlike tribe of the SILURES, twenty-five years after the defeat of Caractacus by Ostorius.

Of the active operations of the contending parties, interesting traces yet remain; on the Herefordshire beacon; Credon hill, Coxwall knoll, &c. are vestiges of british camps; and on the military stations of Dynedor and Brandon camps, undoubted remains of roman fortifications are visible. Also of the remarkable hill, called Caer Caradoc, traditional and historical accounts agree in stating it to have been occupied by Caractacus, and many fierce battles to have been fought in its vicinity. An ancient writer describes this place as "exceedingly well fortified, both by nature and art; upon the toppe of an high hill, environed with a tripple ditche of greate depth. There were iij gates, and on three sides, steepe headlong places, and compassed on the lifte hande with the river Colun,

on

on the right with Themis." Different situations have been ascribed to the scene of the last decisive action between Ostorius and Caractacus; but none rest on such strong grounds of probability, as the stations of Brandon camp and Coxwall knoll. The first of these is situated a little to the west of the great roman road leading from Magna, or Kenchester, to Uriconium, or Wroxeter, and between Wigmore and Leintwardine. Its square form, and the fragments of roman pottery, which may still be picked up within its precincts, evidently prove its origin. The second is within sight, and distant from the roman camp about 3 miles, and a little above the village of Brampton Brian. It crowns the summit of a lofty hill, well covered with oak trees, and is (like the generality of british fortresses) very irregular in its shape. The river Teme runs through the vale near the foot of the hill. Strong by nature but made stronger by art; bold and wild as the chieftain who formed it. On a survey of these two camps, even the most lukewarm traveller will feel a certain degree of enthusiasm, when he recollects that an Ostorius stood on one camp, and a Caractacus on the other; and that their heroic deeds were recorded by the pen of a Tacitus. His satisfaction will be heightened, when he knows that they are the undoubted strong holds occupied by

by the roman and british generals; for each particular related by the historian concerning their respective situations, coincides with the natural position of the river Teme, and the camps of Brandon and Coxwall hills. To the scholar and the antiquarian the whole kingdom does not afford a more interesting or gratifying subject; let them observe the polished and simple form of the roman camp, and the rude and natural features of the british. The roman general depended alone on the strength of his arms, and the valour of his well disciplined legions; but the british chieftain called nature to his assistance, and strengthened her by art.

From the departure of the Romans, to the Norman conquest, history supplies no certain information concerning Ludlow, yet from various written and traditionary accounts it is more than probable that there existed here a town, or fortress, of some importance, previous to the recorded erection of the Castle.

Dinan, Llystwydoc, ancient british names for this place, are certain indications of its having been the Palace of a Prince, as the Saxon name Ludlowe, *Leodlowe*, that is, People Mote, indicates its appropriation to the administration of justice.

Presuming from its british name, that this place was, at a remote period, a royal residence

idence ; and from indisputable authority, knowing, that after the departure of the Romans the struggle for mastery, between the Saxons and Britons, continued more than five hundred years ; and that during that period the frontier of Wales was peculiarly distinguished as the scene of contest ; it may be deemed neither uninteresting, nor too far deviating from our purpose to give short notices of the most remarkable events connected with the history of Mercia.

The kingdom of Mercia, which was the largest and most important of the Saxon Octarchy, extended westward, beyond Ludlow and Wigmore, having its boundary ascertained on this side of the island by the landmark of Offa's Dyke, which reached from the estuary of the river Dee to the mouth of the Wye.

The time of the establishment of the Saxon kingdom of Mercia is generally fixed about the year 586.

Arthur one of the most renowned heroes who fought against the Saxons, sometime previous to this period, was a chieftain of South Wales. He is said to have fought twelve successful battles ; and though it appears from several authorities that there were other kings in various parts of Britain during Arthur's reign, yet he is represented as the paramount sovereign ;

reign; the Pendragon, or Penteyrn, in nominal dignity at least, above every other. Arthur was slain in a civil feud with Medrawd his nephew, whose name has been blackened with every reproach, because "Arthur, the shield of the Cymry, perished in the war which he had excited."

The numerous celebrated british chiefs who succeeded are not forgotten by the ancient bards, in whose productions their fame yet lives. Many instances might be given of the striking traits of characteristic energy attributed to the heroes of bardic song. Taliesin makes Owen, son of Urien, exclaim, in his address to his warriors,

"Being assembled for our country,
 "Let us elevate our banners above the mountains;
 "And push forward our forces over the borders;
 "And lift our spears above the warriors heads;
 "And rush upon the Destroyer in his army;
 "And slay both him and his followers!"

Taliesin was not only a bard but a soldier, and describes in impressive language the scenes of warfare he himself had witnessed.—

"Neither the fields, nor the woods, gave safety to the foe
 "When the shout of the Britons came
 "Like a wave raging against the shore. -----
 "I saw the brave warriors in array;
 "And after the morning, how mangled!
 "I saw the tumult of the perishing hosts;
 "The blood springing forward and moistening the ground.
 "Gwenystrad was defended by a rampart:
 "Wearied, on the earth no longer verdant,
 "I saw at the pass of the ford,
 "The blood-stained men dropping their arms;
 "Pale with terror!" -----

As the Saxons gained upon their possessions,

sions, the Britons were confined to a narrower portion of the country : but the latter yielded no part until it had been dearly purchased.

The most indignant of the fugitives retired into Wales. There the bards consoled the expatriated Britons with the hope that the day would afterwards arrive when they should have their full revenge, by driving out the Saxon hordes. That they should again be led by their majestic chief, Arthur, and be again victorious. That this happy day should restore to every one his own : that the horns of gladness should proclaim the song of peace, the serene days of Cambrian happiness.

The anticipation of this blissful æra gave rapture to the Cymry, even in their stony paradise of Wales. This flattering prediction is extant in the writings of Myrddin :—

" A serpent with chains,
" Towering and plundering,
" With armed wings
" From Germania;
" This will overrun
" All Loegria and Brydon,
" From the land of the Lochlin sea
" To the Severn."

And afterwards is added :—

" Their lord they shall praise,
" Their language preserve,
" Their country lose,
" Except wild Wales,
" Till the destined period of their triumph revolves,
" Then the Britons will obtain
" The crown of their land,
" And the strange people
" Will vanish away."

In 607, or 609, the Britons suffered a disastrous

trous overthrow while fighting under Brocmail, king of Powis, against Ethelfrith. Ancient Bangor fell into the hands of the victor, and its noble Monastery was levelled to the earth; its vast library, the collection of ages, the repository of the most precious monuments of the ancient Britons, was consumed; half ruined walls, gates, and rubbish, were all that remained of this magnificent edifice.

But amidst their misfortunes, the Cymry sometimes triumphed. In 610 Ceolwulf from Wessex advanced upon them, not merely to the Severn, but crossed it, into the province of Glamorgan. The inhabitants hastened to Tew-dric, their former king, who had quitted his dignity in behalf of his son Mowric, to lead a solitary life among the beautiful rocks and woodlands of Tintern. They solicited him to reassume the military command, in which he had never known disgrace. The royal hermit beheld the dreaded Saxons on the Wye, but the remembrance of his former achievements inspired him with hope. He put on his forsaken armour, conducted the tumult of battle with his accustomed skill, and drove the invaders over the Severn. A mortal wound in the head arrested him in the full enjoyment of his glory, and he breathed his last wishes for his country's safety at the confluence of the Severn and the

the Wye. The local appellation Mathern, the abbreviation of Merthyr Tewdric, (the martyr Tewdric,) pointed out his remains to the sympathy of posterity: in the sixteenth century his body was found unconsumed, and the fatal wound on his head was visible.

Some chronicles state that Crida, the grandfather of Penda, was the first Mercian king, and that Ceorl, a kinsman of his son Wibba, preceded Penda, it is not however, disputed that in 626 Penda was king of Mercia, a man of a malevolent and ferocious character, who reigned 30 years the terror and scourge of contemporary princes. In 634 the british prince Cadwallon was defeated and slain by Penda. After the death of Cadwallon, his son Cadwaladr, discouraged by a pestilence and famine, which severely afflicted Wales, went to Bretagne, and was the last of the Cymry who pretended to the sovereignty of England. About this time Christianity was established in Mercia. In the year 678 Ethelbald king of Mercia, wishing to add the pleasant region between the Severn and the Wye, to his territories, raised a powerful army and entered Wales, but at Caer, in Montgomeryshire, he was successfully opposed and driven over the Wye with great loss.

In 755 the celebrated Offa became king of Mercia;

Mercia; his wars with the Britons were at first unsuccessful, but in the end he gained upon their territory as far as the Wye, and separated his acquisitions by an immense trench and rampart, which was carried over mountains and rivers for a hundred miles; the remains of this work are still visible in various places. At the close of Offa's reign Ethelbert possessed the crown of east Anglia, a peaceful and intelligent prince. Invited, or welcomed by Offa, he went to Mercia, for the purpose of receiving the hand of Etheldritha, the daughter of the Mercian king. He was received with due honours, the nuptial feast had begun, yet Offa procured his assassination. The favourable moment of annexing east Anglia to Mercia, was a temptation which alienated the feelings of the father and the man. Offa invaded his dominions and east Anglia was added to his conquests.

Did such a complication of crimes benefit the perpetrator? Before two years elapsed, he sunk from his empire to his grave. Remorse embittered all the interval. His widowed daughter abandoned his court, fled into the marshes of Croyland, and pined away her life in solitude. His queen, the evil counsellor of his ambition, perished miserably; the husband of another of his daughters was cut off in the same year as himself; the other, who married Brihtric,

tric, died a martyr to vice, in penury the most extreme, scorned and abhorred; and his son Ecgfrid, who succeeded him, was permitted to live a king only 141 days. The race of Offa disappeared for ever. Such are the results of a prosperity founded on vice!

In 819 Kenwulf, a peaceful, pious, and just king, died; his crown descending to his son Kinelm, a child of seven years of age, who was cruelly murdered by his sister. Ceolwulf, his uncle, succeeded him. This usurper was slain in battle in 825, and was followed on the throne by Ludecan, who, heading the army against the opposers of his predecessor, found a grave where he had hoped for an empire. Wiglaf, the prince or governor of Worcester, next succeeded; he incautiously attacked Egbert with an inferior force; was defeated, and fled to the abbey of Croyland: there, that interesting character, Etheldritha, widowed in the hour of her marriage feast by her father Offa's crime, sheltered the fugitive prince in her respected cell. How painfully must she have moralized on the deed which had not only destroyed her happiness, but had contributed in its consequences to the ruin of Mercia. The negotiations of the venerable Abbot of Croyland preserved Wiglaf, but completed the degradation of Mercia. He was continued on the throne as the tributary vassal of Wessex. In

him to detect the insecurity of his foes, and their want of discipline, led, very shortly afterwards, to their complete defeat.

With Alfred, the first result of victory, was clemency and benevolence. To Guthrun and his followers, now prostrate at his feet, he proffered, not only mercy and forgiveness, but protection and territory, provided they would abandon Paganism, embrace Christianity, and be regulated by the laws of civilized Society.

To these terms Guthrun, joyfully, and as the event proved, sincerely acceded; himself and thirty of his officers being immediately baptized in the presence of Alfred. Part of his army and his retinue were settled with their chief in east Anglia; Guthrun fixing on the scite of Hadleigh in Suffolk, as a central situation for his capital, or heard-liege. He reigned near eleven years, inviolably observing the laws and religion of Alfred, and preserving his own people within the strict bounds of peace and good order. No stronger proof indeed, can be given of the integrity and fidelity of Guthrun than, that no sooner had he ceased to govern, than the Danes of east Anglia shewed signs of turbulence and disaffection, and took the earliest opportunity of co-operating with their countryman, Hastings, in his invasion of England in 893. An ancient gothic arch in the wall of Hadleigh church, marks

marks the place where his remains were deposited. All history cannot furnish a more illustrious instance of the power of christian principles to restore fallen human nature, than the conversion of Guthrun the Dane.

Inscription for the tomb of Guthrun.—

"O! stay thee stranger; o'er this hallow'd ground
In solemn silence pause! Here sleeps the chief,
Whom royal Alfred, with a christian's seal,
From deeds of savage slaughter, from the rites
Of Odin, bath'd in blood, and breathing war,
Turn'd to the living God.— Guthrun the Dane!
Here oft, repentant of the erring course
That stain'd his dawn of manhood, hath he bow'd
His head in meekness; with a pilgrim's faith
Abjur'd the idols of his native land;
Pray'd for redeeming grace; and sighing deep,
Dropp'd the lone tear upon his Saviour's cross;
Then, hence retiring, with a patriot's care,
Rul'd his brief realm, and kept his vow of peace.
O ye, who 'mid the strife of battle, burn
With lust of fame or power! Say, have ye felt,
E'en in the glow of conquest, when the car
In triumph bore you o'er the tented field,
Felt ye a throb of joy so keenly sweet,
Such thrilling rapturs as did Guthrun feel
When free from ruthless rage and thirst of blood,
The storm of vengeful passion lull'd to rest,
Here, prostrate at St. Mary's shrine, he felt
His heart within him yearning for his God.
Go stranger, if perchance to thee belong
The honour'd name of father, teach thy sons,
That not in deeds of rapine, or of spoil,
Power's forceful arm, or vict'ry's crimson steel,
Consists the virtue or the good of man;
That He, who bade them breathe and live, alone,
Looks on the heart, alone vouchsafes to dwell
In that pure bosom, where, with peace reside
The sister-forms of Piety and Love."

On the ascendancy of Alfred and the declension of the Danish power, Mercia was governed as a province by Ethelred, who married Ethelfleda, the eldest daughter of his sovereign.

Ethelfleda, was a woman of very superior mind: such were its energies, that they even reached

reached a masculine strength. She is extolled in the ancient Chronicles, as the wisest lady in England. Her brother Edward governed his life, in its best actions, by her counsels. After she was married to the governor of Mercia, she built innumerable cities, and on all occasions displayed a statesman's skill, and an amazonian activity. The difficulty and sufferings of her first parturition, deterred her from the chance of a repetition. She protested that it did not become a king's daughter to pursue any pleasure, which was attended with such inconvenience. In 912 Ethelfleda was a widow, but she continued to govern Mercia until her death in 920. Among the numerous fortresses erected by Ethelfleda to protect the Mercian territory in Shropshire and Herefordshire, were Wigmore, Bridgnorth, and Chirbury.

In 983 Alfric occupied the dukedom of Mercia. Three years afterwards he was expelled the kingdom. In 992 he was intrusted, by Ethelred, the unready, with the management of an expedition against the Danes, who had invaded the coasts. The expedition failed through his perfidy in joining the invaders; to revenge which, the king barbarously put out the eyes of his son Algar.

Edric, one of the favorites of Ethelred, was duke of Mercia in 1007. He was eloquent and crafty;

crafty ; excelling all men in perfidy and cruelty. When, in 1013, Canute the Dane called to his aid Eric the Jarl, one of the rulers of Norway, and one of the sons of Hakon the bad, Edric crowned the treasons of his life by joining the invading enemy. In this warfare Mercia was plundered without mercy. This infamous noble was again restored to his dukedom by Canute in 1016, but imprudently boasting of his services, and his treasons to his former sovereign, Canute's anger arose, and he ordered his attendants to murder him in his presence. In 1057 England lost Leofric, the duke of Mercia, by whose wisdom the reign of Edward the confessor was preserved from many perils and disorders, which the ambition of others would have introduced : his son Algar succeeded him.

We have now brought down these short notices of the most remarkable circumstances of the Mercian history to the close of the Saxon period.

In the ninth century, Judith, the sister of Alfred the great, was married to Baldwin, with the iron arm, Count of Flanders : the son of this marriage was Baldwin the bald. It was he who obtained the hand of Alfritha, the daughter of Alfred, their offspring was Arnulph, who is mentioned with expressions of celebrity, and who succeeded his father in 918. From a descendant of Arnulph was born Matilda, the wife of William the Conqueror. Soon

Soon after the Conquest king William found occasion to go, at the head of his army, against Edric Sylvaticus, or the Forester, who had besieged Shrewsbury. Edric was defeated with great loss; but afterwards occupying his Castle of Wigmore, he sustained a long and arduous contest with the forces sent against him, under the command of Roger de Montgomery and Ranulph Mortimer. Edric, at last compelled to surrender, was sent prisoner to the king, and, for having completed this undertaking, Mortimer was rewarded by the gift of Wigmore Castle and its appendages; and Montgomery had granted to him all Edric's possessions in Salop, comprehending nearly the whole of that county.

It cannot be ascertained at what precise time Ludlow became distinguished either as a town or fortress; it is recorded in the old chronicles, that "Roger de Montgomery erected the greatest part of the Castle and fortified the Town with walls." We cannot but suppose a town was found here previous to its being so encircled and defended; it may also be inferred, that in the times and place alluded to, a town and a fortress must have been coincident with each other. Be this as it may, it is a fact well authenticated, that the present Castle was founded, or completed by the above-named nobleman.

Roger

Roger de Montgomery was related to the Conqueror ; led the centre division of his army in that memorable battle which secured the conquest of England, and was advanced to the Earldoms of Arundel and Shrewsbury.

His first wife was Mabel, daughter and heiress to William Talvace, (son of William, son of Ivo de Belesme, a person of great power and note in Normandy,) with whom he had a large inheritance. By this Mabel he had five sons and four daughters ; of whom Robert de Belesme was the eldest.

Montgomery is represented in history as a person no less distinguished for piety than valour. He was the liberal founder of many rich monasteries and churches, particularly the monastery of Wenlock, and the abbey church of Shrewsbury.

Having completed his favorite structure of Ludlow Castle, he enjoyed it until his death, which happened the 27th of July 1094. He was buried in the abbey church of Shrewsbury, in which place is to be seen an image of him found among the ruins of Wenlock monastery, with an inscription, stating that it was placed there by his majesty's heralds at arms in the year 1622. On his death, his son Robert succeeded to the norman property, and Hugh, his second son inheriting his english titles and estates,

estates, became Lord of Ludlow Castle, which he did not enjoy long, being suddenly taken off in the prime of life. The account of his death is found in the Welch Chronicle, page 156.

“The year following being 1096, Hugh de Mountgomerie Earl of Arundell and Salopshurie, whom the Welchmen call Hugh Goch, that is to say, Hugh the red-headed; and Hugh Vrás, that is, Hugh the fat, Earl of Chester, and a great number of nobles more, did gather a huge armie, and entred into North Wales, being thereto moved by certein lords of the countrie” &c. “And so the Earls came over against the ile of Môn, or Anglesey, where they did build a Castel of Aberlhiennawc. Then the Earls spoiled the ile and slew all that they found there. And at the verie same time Magnus, the sonne of Haroald, came with a great navie of ships towards England, minding to laie faster hold upon that kingdome than his father had done, and being driven by chaunce to Anglesey, would have landed there, but the Earls kept him from the land. And there Magnus with an arrowe stroke Hugh, Earl of Salop in the face, that he died thereof, and suddenlie either part forsook the ile, and the Englishmen returned to England, and left Owen ap Edwyn prince in the land, who had allured them thither. The Earl was buried in the
abbey

abbey of St. Werburgh, which he had founded, at Chester."

Robert, on the death of his brother, succeeded to the Earldoms of Shrewsbury and Arundel in England. He was knighted in Normandy by William the Conqueror in the year 1073, and became a great favorite of that Prince; but no sooner was the king dead, than his turbulent and rebellious disposition began to shew itself. He seized on several of the royal forts and garrisons, and joined with Odo, Earl of Kent, against William Rufus, with whom a reconciliation was, however, effected. He afterwards took part with Robert Curtoise against king Henry I. and on being summoned to answer the treasonable charges alledged against him, fled to his castles which he had strongly fortified; but at last he was under the necessity of imploring the royal mercy. The king confiscated his estates, deprived him of his honours, and banished him the realm. Yet the wealth which he had treasured up in thirty-four strong castles supported him sufficiently; but his restless spirit formed new conspiracies even in exile, which were carried to such a dangerous length, that the king considering that no favour could win him, nor oath or promise oblige, summoned him before his court of justice, where he was by judgment committed to close imprisonment, and

and sufficiently secured for the remainder of his life. His character has been drawn by an ancient historian, as a very subtle, crafty and deceitful man; big of body, strong, bold; powerful in arms, and eloquent; but exceedingly cruel, covetous, and libidinous. A person of great insight in serious affairs, and unwearied in his management of worldly business; likewise a most ingenious architect; but for inflicting torments, a most inexorable butcher. No friend to the church, but a vile and wretched oppressor; for which he underwent the sentence of excommunication by the venerable Serlo, Bishop of Sees, all his lands being interdicted, so that there was no burial therein, yet nothing was he reformed by any of these means. In brief, there can be no higher expressions of the most barbarous and cruel tyrant that ever was, than is of him; his severity being exercised not only on strangers, but even friends and familiars; glorying and making his boast amongst his parasites of these his unparalleled inhumanities. He took to wife, Agnes, the daughter of Guy, Earl of Penthien, whom he used most barbarously. This Earl possessed the castle of Ludlow until his attainder, when it came into the possession of king Henry I. by whom it was made a princely residence, greatly augmented in the strength of its works, and supplied with a numerous garrison.

The frequent skirmishes, and battles between the Welch and their frontier enemies were productive of great slaughter and losses to both parties, and the kings of England often sent powerful armies, and some in person invaded their coasts, and drove them into the mountainous and uninhabited parts, but were never able to penetrate into the heart of the country without great loss to themselves, and little annoyance to the Welch. This want of success was occasioned by the strait passes and intricate windings among mountains and bogs, which favoured the flight of men habituated to these rugged and apparently inaccessible retreats. However in process of time, they lost much of their low frontier country, but they by no means allowed their enemies to possess their acquisitions in peace and quietness.

The english monarchs perceiving this warfare to be very troublesome and hazardous, (as Henry II. fatally experienced when he attempted to march his army over Berwin mountains, nearly the whole being destroyed by cold and famine,) were therefore induced to grant to certain english gentlemen of enterprising dispositions, such portions of the country as they could gain from the Welch by force of arms at their own expense. And this conquered territory they allowed them and their heirs to hold,

hold, freely of the crown, *per Baroniam*, with the exercise of royal jurisdiction therein : hence they were called Lords, or Barons, Marchers ; and all the foundation of their title was by assumption and permission, and not by grant ; for no grant of this nature was ever known to have been recorded, either in the Tower or elsewhere.

Allured by these promises, many noblemen, and other persons of distinction, raising armies, marched into Wales, and, after various successes, and changes of fortune, dispossessed the Welch of a considerable extent of country.

About the time of the Norman Conquest, several large garrisoned towns were built on the frontiers of Wales, viz. Bristol, Gloucester, Worcester, Salop, and Chester. Secure in these fortresses, the adventurers, by frequent incursions into the low and flat countries, prosecuted a very destructive warfare against their opponents, and by force or stratagem drove them from their possessions.

Peter Corbett held the manor of *Causee* : Theobald de Verdon, had *Mably* : Mortimer, *Wigmore* : Fitz-Allen, *Clun*, &c. and all those Lords Marchers executed laws of sovereign governors on their tenants and people, which the kings of England thought prudent to permit for a time. A similar policy, as we learn from the
historian

historian *Lampadius*, was used with respect to lands on the confines of Scotland, and in both instances savage and ferocious Border wars continued for ages.

The preceding brief sketch of the history of the Lords Marchers, is given to illustrate the Historical Notices which are collected in this Account of Ludlow and its Castle.

After the accession of Stephen, the governor of Ludlow Castle, Gervase Paganelle, having betrayed his trust in joining the Empress Maud, Stephen besieged it; in which attack some say he succeeded, others on the contrary represent the attempt as completely unsuccessful. The most prevailing opinion is that the governor repenting, wished to obtain the king's forgiveness, and succeeded in gaining advantageous terms of submission for himself and the garrison, on which the Castle was surrendered A. D. 1139.

During this siege the Earl of Northumberland, son of David king of Scotland, driven on by juvenile boldness, had nearly fallen a victim to his indiscretion; approaching too near the walls, on horseback, he was on the point of losing his life by means of a grappling engine thrown out by the besieged. From this perilous situation he was extricated by the king, who hastened instantly to his relief, and having cut asunder with his sword the ropes to which
the

the iron hooks were fixed, saved the young prince, at the imminent danger of his own life. "An action," says Rapin, "which redounded as much to the honour of the king, as of the prince for whom he testified so great an affection."

About the year 1176 Henry II. made a grant of this noble Castle to Fulke Fitz Warine, his favourite, surnamed de Dinan, together with that extensive and fertile vale on the banks of the River Corve, called Corve-Dale.

To this Fulke Fitz Warine de Dinan, succeeded Joccas de Dinan; between whom and Hugh de Mortimer, Lord of Wigmore, great dissensions arose; insomuch that Joccas could not pass out of his Castle without danger of being taken by Mortimer's men. But it so happened, that Mortimer himself setting spies upon Joccas, and roving through the woods alone, was surprised in the thickets contiguous to the Whitecliffe Heath, by some men who had been sent to cut wood for the garrison: by whom he was taken prisoner into the Castle of Ludlow, and confined in one of the towers, which to this day is called Mortimer's Tower, from whence he was not released until he had paid 3000 marks of silver for his ransom. An amazing sum, if we consider the great difference between the value of money at that period and the present. It

It is not clearly ascertained from history at what time the Lacy family first possessed the Castle of Ludlow, but in the grant made to Robert, Earl of Leicester, of the Earldom of Hereford, we find the name of Hugh de Lacy, with an acknowledgment of a former claim that the family had to the possessions granted to Gotso, or Joccas. The deed in question, was made in the last year of the reign of Stephen. "If he can arrange matters with Gotso de Dinant," says the king, "I freely grant that the said Gotso may hold his fee, which had been Hugh de Lacy's, of the Earl." It was during the time it was possessed by Gotso, or Joccas, that Lacy boldly attempted to make good his claim by force of arms, in which he finally succeeded. During the contest, Hugh and his friend, Sir Arnold de Lisle, were taken captive and confined in the "prison of Pendover within the Castle of Ludlow." In which state of suspense they probably remained a considerable time, at the mercy of their enemy. However, it is recorded, that an amour with a gentlewoman of the household of Sir Joccas, supplied De Lisle with the means of escape. Soon after, returning with a sufficient force, they were secretly admitted into the Castle by their female innamorato, and the unfortunate Sir Joccas was deprived of his possessions. The too late re-
pentance

penitance of this abandoned woman drove her to the madness of desperation, and in her frenzy she destroyed herself.

The following curious account in Leland's *Collectanea*; Tom. 1. p. 231, refers to this period.

Things excerptid oute of an old Englisch boke yn ryme of the Gestes of Guarine and his sunnes. "William Conqueror toke counsel of Corbet and Mortimer for strenkething of his marches about the quarters of Shropshire agayn the Walchmen. The burge of Shrobbesburi was committed to the cure of Roger de Belesme, where he made a castel Alberbyri and Alleston was committed to Guarine de Mees. Alane Fleilsone had gyven to him Oswaldestre, Payne Peverel, that lovid welle hunting, had Whittington with al the lordship. Payne Peverel had no issue; but his sister had a sunne caullid William, a worthy knight, that won the hundredes of Ellesmere, and Meilor, and other mo. This William had issue eleven daughters, whereof Helene was married to Alane's heyre: and Mellet, the secunde, wold have none but a knight of very nobil hardines. Wherefore her father promised by crye that noble young men should meate at Peverel's place in the Peke, and he that provid hymself yn feates of armes, should have Mellet his doughter, with the castle of Whittington.

Whittington. Guarine cam to this enterprice, and ther faute with a sunne of the king of Scotland, and also with a Baron of Burgoyne, and vanquish'd them bothe. Guarine had a sheld of sylver, and a proude peacock upon his heaulme creste. Guarine weddid Mellet, and had a sunne caullid Fulco. Joos, a knight, was left as governer to yong Fulco. Guarine and he defendid his lands agayne one Walter, the greatest of the marche lorde oute of Lacy and Ludlow. They met at a bent by Bourne, at a bridge ende a litle from Ludlow. Joos bare a sheld of sylver, with thre blew lyons coronid with gold.

Joos had a daughter caullid Hawise, whom Fulco Gwarine entirely lovid, and seying her in great dolour, askid the cause of her sorrow, and she answerid that it was no matier for an hauker to amende: and he upon that toke hise and spere to rescue Joos her father, as one Godarde was about to streke of his hede; so that Godarde was slayne of him, and Gualter Lacy dryven away. Then Joos recovered a horse and sore woundid Syr Arnold that did hym much hurt. Ther Fulco killid one Andrew, a knight longging to Walter Lacy. Gualter Lacy and Syr Arnold were taken prisoners and put in the Castel of Ludlow, in a prison caullid Pendouer.

A gentilwoman, caullid Marion, deliverid both these knighttes by treason oute of Pendouer, for love of Syr Arnold de Lis, one of them that promised her falsely marriage. Fulco Guarine weddid Hawise, doughter to Joos, at Ludlow Castel. Joos and Fulco Guarine toke a journey into Ireland; Marion tarried, faining siknes, behind, and write a lettre to her love Syr Arnold de Lis, to cum secretly to her up into the Castel with a lader of leder and cordes. Arnold cam according to Marion's desier, and had his pleasure of her; and sone after cam his band, and secretly scalinge the walles killed the Castellanes. Then Marion, seeing this treason, lept out of a towre and brake her nek; and Arnold killed after many of the burgeses of Ludlow toune, sparing nother wife, widow nor childe.

Walter Lacy, hering that the Castel and toune of Ludlow was won, cam with his band thither, and mannid and vitailid Ludlow, keping it as his owne. This tidinges was told to Joos, lying at Lambourne. Joos and Fulco, and his father Guarine, cam to rescue Ludlow; and in assaulting of it killid many of Lacy's men. Then Lacy, with a band of men, cam oute to fight with them; but he lesing many men, was fayne to recoyle into the toune. Sone after this, Guarine de Meese waxed very sike, and so goying

goying to Albourby he dyed there within VII dayes, and was buried in the new abbay, Fulco his sunne and Mellet his wife being present. Fulco returnid to help Joos. Gualter Lacy sent to the prince of Wales for help, and he cam, wynning by the way Whittington; and Deonoan, a place about Ludlow, wither the prince of Wales with his, resortid to help Lacy.

Fulco Guarine hurte the prince of Wales in the shoulder, and drave hym to a castel, caullid Cayhome, where Cay had be lorde, and there asseging by three days part of the princes men, killid many of them at a certen issue. Fulco was woundid, and yet roode to mete king Henry by Glocestre, of whom he was welle interteynid as his kinnesman, and there he had his wounde that Arnold's brother gave him yn the waste welle helid. King Henry made Fulke a knight and steward of his house, and lorde and governor of thos marchis. This Fulco Guarine had a sunne by his wife Hawise, likewise caullid Fulco."

The male line of the Lacies became extinct on the death of the first Hugh, but the name was revived in the person of his nephew. It was this second Hugh de Lacy to whom Henry II. gave the Earldom of Ulster; and it is presumed he was sanctioned in retaining possession of Ludlow by the same Monarch.

In the fifth of Richard I. Gilbert Talbot had lands given him for the custody of Ludlow Castle, and eight years afterwards, 1198, Hubert, Archbishop of Canterbury, and Primate of England, took possession of Ludlow Castle on behalf of the king, and committed it to the care of new governors.

Anno gratiæ millesimo centesimo nonagesimo octavo, Hubertus, &c. fuit in Walliâ, et recepit in manu suâ Castellum de Ludelaw, &c. expulsi inde custodibus, qui ea diu custodierant; et tradidit ea aliis custodibus custodienda ad opus Regis. *Hoveden Annal. p. 775.*

In the eighth year of the reign of king John we find this Castle remaining in the possession of the crown, and was then conferred on Philip de Albani, who intermediately enjoyed it until it again devolved to the ancient family of the Lacies. Walter de Lacy, and Gilbert his son, granted great possessions in and near the town of Ludlow, for the support of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, founded by Peter Undergod, soon after the Conquest. This hospital stood near Ludford bridge, contiguous to Ludlow, in a place called to this day, St. John's close.

Walter de Lacy died in the year 1241, the twenty-fifth year of Henry III. his estates descending, in default of male heirs, to his two grand-daughters, Margery, and Maud.

In

In the twenty-eighth of Henry III. A. D. 1244, Geoffrey de Genevill having married Maud, the niece and one of the co-heirs of Walter de Lacy, obtained the King's precept to the Sheriff of Herefordshire for setting forth her purparty, upon partition of the lands of the said Walter; whereupon the Castle of Ludlow with its members, was in part thereof assigned to her, and became the inheritance of her son Peter de Genevill.

45 Henry III. 1261, orders were issued from the Castle of Ludlow, commanding all the Barons' Marchers to repair to that fortress with horse and arms to assist Roger de Mortimer in restraining the hostilities of the Welch. In 1264 the King being obliged to yield to the Barons, Roger de Mortimer was one who undertook to guarantee the regularity of his conduct: but the King soon after getting strength, marched to Northampton, and gave the Barons a defeat, Roger de Mortimer being then the chief in the action for the King; and soon after being in the fatal battle of Lewis, and discerning the day to be lost, he fled with James de Aldithley, Roger de Clifford, and others of the Barons Marchers and fell upon Llewellyn, who had been advancing with his men towards the Castle of Ludlow, endeavouring in a clandestine manner during the absence of its Lord to seize upon it.

Not long after the Barons gaining the ascendancy, Hugh Mortimer surrendered this castle, and also Richard's Castle, to John Fitz John, and then the Barons went to Montgomery, where Roger Mortimer and James de Aldithley were. (*Dugdale.*)

In the thirty-first of Edward I. A. D. 1303, Roger de Mortimer married Joane, the widow of Peter de Genevill, son of Geoffrey de Genevill, and became Lord of Ludlow Castle. In the fourteenth of Edward II. A. D. 1321, having united himself with the discontented Barons of the realm, he was committed a prisoner to the Tower, from which he found means to escape, A. D. 1323; and in memory of this deliverance he caused a chapel to be built in honour of St. Peter, in the outer ward of Ludlow Castle, for one priest to celebrate mass perpetually therein.

This distinguished personage, raised by a daring course of crimes to that "bad eminence" from which he was at last precipitated, was created Earl of March in the first year of Edward III. He was afterwards made Justice of Wales by that monarch, whom he entertained most sumptuously during his progress into the Marches of Wales, at his Castles of Ludlow and Wigmore.

The reign of the second Edward had been disgraced by the wickedness and cruelty which follows

follows a system of favoritism ; and weakly submitting to the guidance of a depraved woman and her partizans, he ultimately lost his crown and his life.

Great numbers of noblemen and public characters were destroyed by the secret plots of Mortimer and Adam de Orlton, Bishop of Hereford ; which latter, if we may credit a contemporary writer, was of a character equally depraved with the Lord of Wigmore, and deserving the appellation given him of,

“Omnis hujus mali Architectus.”

“Never,” says Speed, “did English earth at one time drink so much blood of her nobles, in so vile a manner shed ; their enemies, not contented with their blood, procured also the confiscation of their estates and inheritances.” “But, Mortimer,” exclaims the historian, “there will be a time, when the cry of this, and other blood sacrificed to thy private revenge, (whilst thou abusest the public trust) will never give over the pursuit, till it hath deservedly drawn thine in lieu thereof.”

“*Nemesis*, or rather God’s vengeance, with swift pace did now approach and summon Mortimer to a bloody account. Oh what enchantments are honour and power to the minds of men ! how suddenly and how strangely do they blow up the same with the contempt of others, and forget-

forgetfulness of themselves? Certainly the frail state of man's constitution is clearly seen in this high lord, who, drunken with felicity, and fearing neither God nor man, fell into utter confusion when least he feared." Mortimer was at last seized by the King himself, assisted by his attendants, in Nottingham Castle.

"There was in the Castle of Nottingham (and at this day is) a certain secret way or mine cut through a rock, upon which the said castle is built, one issue whereof openeth toward the river which runs under it, and the other venteth itself far within upon the surface, and is (at this present) called Mortimer's hole; through this, the young King (Edward III.) well armed, and strongly seconded, was conducted by some of his trusty and sworn servants, with drawn swords, up to the Queen's chamber, whose door was unshut, and with her was Mortimer, ready to go to bed, whom, with the slaughter of a knight, and one or two that resisted, they laid hold upon. This was not reputed a slender enterprize, in regard that in Mortimer's retinue were not fewer than one hundred and three score knights, besides esquires and gentlemen." The articles of impeachment against Mortimer are to be found as follows, in the celebrated poem of the "*Mirroure of Magistrats*."

- "Five heinous crimes against him soon were had,
 1. First that he caused the King to yield the Scott,
 (To make a peace) towns that were from him got.
 And therewithall the Charter called Ragman;
 2. That of the Scots he had buyed privy gain.
 3. That through his meanes Sr. Edward of Carnarvon;
 In Berkley Castle most traitorously was slain.
 4. That with his Prince's mother he had laine,
 5. And finally with polling at his pleasure,
 Had rob'd the King and Commons of their treasure."

"But the most barbarous murder of the King's father, and especially the dishonourable peace and contract with the then professed enemies of England, were principally insisted upon as heinous treason. He was after sentence ignominiously drawn to Tyburn, the common place of execution, then called the Elmes, and there upon the common gallows was as ignominiously executed, hanging (by the King's commandment) two days and two nights, a public and gladsome spectacle." This happened in the year 1330. A grandson of the Earl, of the same name, succeeded to his title and estates, who, desirous of possessing the Lordship of Ludlow entire, gave the manor of Crendon, in Buckinghamshire, to Sir William de Ferrars of Groby, in exchange for that moiety of this manor and Town, which had descended to the Ferrars family.

Ludlow continued for a long series of years in the possession of the Mortimers, from whom descended a great and noble family in the chief line of it; it also branched forth into the considerable

siderable ones of Richard's Castle, Attilbury, Chirk, and Chilmarch, all barons and great men in their generations; of whom Sir William Dugdale mentions, — “ How great, how pious, how numerous these Mortimers were, and lastly how honourably the name went out, being wrapt up in the crown by an heir general.

The conflict between the houses of York and Lancaster began in the year 1399, when, on the deposition of Richard II, the Duke of Lancaster ascended the throne under the title of Henry IV, and the Mortimer family from this period became distinguished as competitors with the Lancastrians for the English crown.

Henry was the son of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, fourth son of Edward III. His title however, was not a just one, for Lionel, Duke of Clarence, third son of Edward III, left a daughter named Philippa, from whom descended the House of York.

Edmund Mortimer, uncle to Richard Plantagenet having been declared heir apparent to the crown by Richard II, previous to that Prince's unfortunate Irish expedition, was on that account kept a close prisoner during the whole of the reigns of Henry IV, and Henry V. His conference with his nephew, as given by our great dramatic Bard, is in a high degree interesting.

SCENE, A PRISON.

ENTER MORTIMER, BROUGHT IN A CHAIR,
AND JAILORS.

- Mor. Kind keepers of my weak decaying age
Let dying Mortimer here rest himself.
E'en like a man new haled from the rack,
So fare my limbs with long imprisonment:
And these grey locks, the pursuivants of death,
Nestor-like aged in an age of care,
Argue the end of Edmund Mortimer.
These eyes, like lamps whose wasting oil is spent,
Wax dim, as drawing to their exigent.
Weak shoulders overborne with burthening grief,
And pithless arms, like to a wither'd vine
That droops his sapless branches to the ground:
Yet are these feet, whose strengthless stay is numb,
(Unable to support this lump of clay)
Swift-winged with desire to get a grave;
As witting, I no other comfort have.
But tell me Keeper, will my nephew come?
Keep. Richard Plantagenet, my Lord, will come——
Mor. Enough; my soul then shall be satisfy'd.
Poor gentleman, his wrong doth equal mine.
Since Henry Mouthouth first began to reign,
(Before whose glory I was great in arms,
This loathsome sequestration have I had;
And, even since then, hath Richard been obscur'd,
Depriv'd of honour and inheritance.
But now the arbitrator of despair,
Just death, kind umpire of men's miseries,
With sweet enlargement doth dismiss me hence.

ENTER RICHARD PLANTAGENET.

- Keep. My Lord, your loving nephew now is come.
Mor. Richard Plantagenet, my friend, is he come?
Plan. I noble uncle, thus ignobly us'd;
Your nephew,——
Mor. Direct mine arms, I may embrace his neck,
And in his bosom spend my latest gasp.
Oh, tell me, when my lips do touch his cheeks;
That I may kindly give one fainting kiss.
Plan. First lean thine aged back against mine arm;
And now, good uncle, for my father's sake,
In honour of a true Plantagenet,
And for alliance sake, declare the cause
My father Earl of Cambridge lost his head.
Mor. This cause, fair nephew, that imprison'd me;
And hath detain'd me all my flow'ring youth
Within a loathsome dungeon, there to pine,
Was cursed instrument of his decease.
Plan. Discyver more at large what cause that was,
For I am ignorant and cannot guess.

- Mor. I will, if that my fading breath permit;
 And death approach not, ere my tale be done.
 Henry the fourth, grandfather to this king,
 Depos'd his cousin Richard, Edward's son;
 The first begotten, and the lawful heir
 Of Edward, king, the third of that descent,
 During whose reign the Percies of the north,
 Finding his usurpation most unjust,
 Endeavour'd my advancement to the throne.
 The reason mov'd these warlike lords to this,
 Was, for that young king Richard thus remov'd,
 Leaving no heir begotten of his body,
 I was the next by birth and parentage.
 But mark; as in this haughty quest attempt
 They laboured to plant the rightful heir;
 I lost my liberty and they their lives.
 Long after this, when Henry the fifth,
 After his father Bolingbroke, did reign,
 Thy father, Earl of Cambridge, (then deriv'd
 From famous Edmund Langley, Duke of York,
 Marrying my sister, that thy mother was);
 Again in pity of my hard distress
 Levied an army, meaning to redeem
 And re-install me in the diadem:
 But as the rest, so fell that noble Earl
 And was beheaded. Thus the Mortimers,
 In whom the title rested, were suppress'd.
- Plan. Of which, my Lord, your Honour is the last.
- Mor. True; and thou seest, that I no issue have;
 And that my fainting words do warrant death:
 Thou art my heir; the rest I wish thee gather:
 But yet be wary in thy studious care.
 With silence, nephew, be thou politic:
 Strong-fixed is the house of Lancaster,
 And like a mountain not to be remov'd.
 But now thy uncle is removing hence;
 As Princes do their courts, when they are cloy'd
 With long continuance in a settled place.
- Plan. O uncle, would some past of my young years
 Might but redeem the passage of your age!
- Mor. Thou dost then wrong me, as that slaughterer doth,
 Who giveth many wounds when one will kill.
 Mourn not, except thou sorrow for my good;
 Only give orders for my funeral
 And so farewell; and fair befall thy hopes
 And prosperous be thy life in peace and war! (Dies.)
- Plan. And peace, no war, befall thy parting soul!
 In prison hast thou spent a pilgrimage,
 And, like an hermit, over-past thy days.
 Well; I will look his counsel in my breast;
 And what I do imagine, let that rest.
 Keepers, convey him hence: and I myself
 Will see his burial better than his life.
 Here lies the dusky torch of Mortimer,
 Chok'd with ambition of the meaner sort.

Richard Plantagenet, Earl of Cambridge, was beheaded by Henry V, and his brother the Duke of York was slain at the battle of Agincourt. His title and estates descended to the second Richard Plantagenet, who would probably never have attempted to dethrone Henry VI, had not the people by their uneasiness under his government, seemed to invite him to the undertaking.

In the year 1450, the Duke of York laid violent hands on his avowed enemies, John Sutton Lord Dudley, Reignald, Abbot of St. Peter's at Glastonbury, and another person, whom he imprisoned in his Castle of Ludlow. The same year he published a letter about the government of the town; the purport of which is to confirm and authorize the continuance of the "rule, counsel and governance of the said town, by the *Twelve and Twenty-five*," as formerly, "sythe the time that no mind is." The style of the Duke in this instrument is "Earl of March, and of Ulster, Lord of Clare, of Wigmore, and of Ludlow."

It seems to have been the policy of the Lancastrian usurpers, conscious of their want of a just title to the crown, to pacify the house of York by the allowance of posts of honour and profit. It might therefore naturally be expected, that the first attempts against the sovereign to whom they

they had sworn allegiance, would be attended with some scruples of conscience, as well as apprehensions of danger. Indeed it is evident that the paltry system of duplicity by which the Duke conducted his undertaking, was that which is only adopted or vindicated by those whom fear or wickedness induces to throw a veil over their real intentions. A system seldom ultimately successful, though, unfortunately for mankind, too often made use of.

It was therefore under various pretences that the Duke began to raise a powerful army in the Marches. In order to palliate his proceedings, he published a declaration, dated at his Castle of Ludlow, and signed with his own hand and seal, January 9th, 1451, in which he professed his allegiance to King Henry, stating that his army was raised solely for the purpose of redressing certain grievances, &c. feeding in this manner, the public mind with vague and frivolous excuses, as an extenuation of his conduct.

Time, however disclosed his real designs; for soon after the death of Lord Audley, at Blore Heath, in Staffordshire, he threw off the mask, openly avowed his pretensions to the throne, and appointed the Castle of Ludlow the place of rendezvous for his adherents. On which the royal army then stationed at Worcester, was ordered to march against him.

On

On the approach of the Royalists to Ludford, the Bishop of Salisbury was sent into the town with an offer of a general amnesty, if they would surrender. This being approved of by the inhabitants, and violently opposed by the soldiers, a contest arose between them in which many of the former were destroyed.

These disputes could not fail to weaken the resolution of the besieged, and this is apparent from the submissive letter sent to the King as stated by Speed.—“The Earl of Salisbury in this sort opened to himself a way to Ludlow, where the head of their combination, the Duke of York, busied himself to gather forces: being met, they conclude, that seeing the matter was now become deadly, they would deal in clouds no longer, but fight it out to the extremity. Men are drawn out of all parts with large hopes and promises of sharing in their fortunes, and the Earl of Warwick bringing with him from Calais, that valiant captain Andrew Trollop, and a band of stout and choice soldiers, comes to the general rendezvous of the Yorkists, the Castle of Ludlow.”

“The King in the mean space hath assembled a great puissance of faithful subjects, and being attended with the Dukes of Somerset and Exeter, and other of his chief friends, marcheth against his enemies. His first work was to offer them general pardon. It is refused, and

called by them a *staff of reed*, or *glass buckler*. The sword must decide the quarrel. Whereupon the King commands his standards to advance: while he was on his march, a letter fraught with the wonted hypocrisies, is delivered to the King. In it among many other insinuations are these. "Most christian King, right high and mighty Prince, and our most dread sovereign Lord, &c. We sent unto your good grace by the Prior of the cathedral church of Worcester and divers other Doctors, and among others by Mr. William Linwood, Doctor of Divinity, which ministered unto us severally the blessed sacrament of the body of Jesus, whereupon we and every of us deposed of our truth and duty, &c." But the letter made no overture of any course upon which they would yield to lay down arms, alledging, "they would but make their way to the King for redress of abuses, and that they were enforced to stand together for their own defence, against such great courtiers and favorites, as intended their destruction."

"The King is now in sight, whom the triumvirs, York, Warwick, and Salisbury, being strongly entrenched before Ludlow, mean to assail. Andrew Trollop, who had in the King's pay done great service upon the French, was acquainted with all their council, and finding himself extremely deceived, (for he thought, and so by the Earl of Warwick was made to

believe, that the preservation of the King was intended, and not destruction,) abandons the Yorkists camp at midnight, and with a choice number of trusty men presents himself and services to the King, who graciously received him. The Yorkists upon notice of Trollop's act, despairing of success at that present, fly." The Duke of York, with the Earl of Rutland his younger son, into Ireland, the Earl of March, his eldest son and heir. Warwick and Salisbury, with much difficulty escape to Calais. "The multitude which served under York found mercy, but their Tenants were many of them executed, maimed, or generally ransacked. The town of Ludlow itself was spoiled to the bare walls, and the Dutchess of York deprived of all her goods." In the succeeding Parliament, held at Coventry, the following persons were attainted of high treason, and their estates confiscated, as appears from Fenn's Original Letters, vol. 1, page 182.

The Duc of York
 Therle of Marche
 Therle of Rutland
 Therle of Warrwyk
 Therle of Salisbury
 The Lord Powys
 The Lord Clynton
 The Countess of Sarr
 Sir Thomas Nevyle
 Sir John Nevyle
 Sir Thomas Haryngton
 Sir Thom's o Parre
 Sir John Conyers

Sir John Wenlok
 Sir Wm. Oldhall
 Edward Bourghcier Esq.
 A Broy' of his
 Thom's Vaugh'n
 Thom's Colte
 Thomas Clay
 John Denham
 Thomas Moryng
 John Oter
 Maistr Ric. Fisher

Hastyngs and oy' that as yet
 we can not know y'e names, &c.
 As for y'e Lord Powys he came
 inne and hadde g'ee as for his
 lyf, but as for his goods y'e for-
 feture passed

*Alice Daughter and heir of
 Thomas Montague, Earl of Sal-
 isbury, wife of Richard Neville,
 in her right, Earl of Salisbury.

Fabyan gives the following account of this affair.—“Whereof herynge the sayde Duke, then beyng with his people nere vnto the towne of Ludlowe, pyght there a sure and stronge felde, that none of his foes myght vpon any parte entre. Where he so lyinge, came to hym from Calys, the Erle of Warwyke with a stronge bande of men, amonge the whiche was Andrewe Trollop, and many of other of the beste souldyours of Calys. The Duke thus keepynge his felde vpon that one party, and the Kynge with his people vpon that other, vpon the nyght preceding the day that both hoostes shuld have met, the fornamed Andrewe Trollop, with all the chefe souldyours of Calys, secretly departed from the Duke's hoost and went vnto the Kinges, where they were ioyously receyued. Whan this thyng to the Duke and the other lords was asserteyned, they were therewith sore dysmayed, and especyallye, for the sayde lordes hadde to the sayde Andrewe shewyd the hoole of theyr ententys, which than they knewe well shuld be clerelye dyscoveryd vnto theyr enemyes: wherefore, after counceyll for a remedy taken, they concludyd to flee, and leue the felde standyng as they had ben present and styll abydyng. And so, incontinentlye the sayde Duke with his ii sones, and fewe other parsonys, fled towarde Walys, and from thens passed sauely into Irelande.

And forthwith the Kyng rode vnto Ludlowe & dyspoyled the towne and castell, and sent the Duchesse of Yorke, with hyr chyldren, vnto the Duchesse of Buckingham his syster, where she restyd long after."

On the surrender of the place, the greater part of the garrison was pardoned ; but the castle was stripped of all its costly ornaments and the town forcibly plundered of every thing valuable. According to Hall, the Duchess of York with her two younger sons and her sister, were taken in the place, and confined for some time afterwards in one of the outer towers.

Ludlow and its Castle continued in this dismantled state until after the battle of Wakefield, in which the Duke of York was slain and many of his followers cruelly put to death, after having surrendered themselves to the promised mercy of the enemy. The infant son of the Duke murdered in cold blood, and the barbarous cruelty of the Queen to her captive enemy, has been enlarged on by historians. "Cruel joy (says Speed) is seldom fortunate. *Cæsar* wept over *Pompeii's* head, but the Queen (ignorant how many causes of tears were reserved for her own share,) makes herself merry with the ghastly and bloody spectacle of the Duke's head crowned with paper." Cruelty and murder excite the abhorrence and detestation of mankind,
and

and seldom escape punishment. The unfortunate father when the handkerchief drenched in the blood of his child, is given to him, is made to exclaim,

"That face of his, the hungry cannibals
Would not have touch'd, would not have stain'd with blood ;
But you are more inhuman, more inexorable,-----
O, ten times more,-----than tigers of Hyrcania.
See, ruthless Queen, a hapless father's tears :
This cloth thou dipp'dst in blood of my sweet boy,
And I with tears do wash the blood away.
These tears are my sweet Rutland's obsequies ;
And every drop cries vengeance for his death,-----
'Gainst thee, fell Clifford,-----and thee false French woman."

His execrations were prophetic, "for the Earl of March son and heir to this late valiant Duke of York, hearing of this tragical adventure," resolved to revenge the death of his father.

Having collected some troops in the Marches, the Castle of Ludlow was peaceably put into his possession, and the garrison espoused his cause ; being joined afterwards by some Welch troops near Leominster, he completed a formidable army, and kept his flag, as a signal of rendezvous, flying upon the lofty summit of Wigmore Castle.

The Queen, fearful of his rising power, dispatched the Earl of Pembroke with a strong force to oppose him. Young Edward marched out against his enemies, whom he met in a plain near Mortimer's Cross, where a desperate and bloody battle was fought. On the morning preceding the engagement there appeared, to the
Earl

Earl and his friends, a meteor in the heavens,
resembling the junction of three suns ;—

"Three glorious suns, each one a perfect sun;
Not separated with the racking clouds,
But sever'd in a pale clear shining sky.
—They join, embrace, and seem to kiss,
As if they vow'd some league inviolable:
Now are they but one lamp, one light, one sun."

This phenomenon, favourably considered as a supernatural indication of success, helped to inspire courage and resolution in the ensuing struggle ; it was in consequence of this occurrence, that the badge or device, borne by Edward as Earl of March, was a sun in his full brightness ; because the sun of honour and fortune did indeed then begin to shine upon him, through clouds of blood and misery. The battle took place, according to Speed, on Candlemas Day, in the year 1461. Both parties continued the contest with a furious resolution, but in the end the Earl of March obtained a complete victory, killing three thousand eight hundred of his opponents. The poet Daniel describes the youthful Mortimer, as the hero of the day ; —

"Now is young Marche more than a Duke of Yorke,
(For youth, love, grace and courage make him more)
All which for fortune's favour now do worke,
Who graces freshest actors evermore,
Making the first attempt the chiefest worke
Of any man's designs, that strives therefore ;
The after seasons are not so well blest,
For those first spiritues make the first actions best.

Now like the libian lion, when with paine
The weary hunter had pursu'd his prey
From rockes to brakes, from thickets to the plaine,
And at the poynt, thereon his hands to lay,

Hard by his hopes, his eye upon his gaine,
 Out rushing from his denne rapt all away:
 So comes young Marche their hopes to disappoint
 Who now were growne so neere unto the poynt.

-----With a thousand tongues swift-wing'd fame comes,
 And tells of Marche's gallant victories,
 Who, what withstands, subdues, all overcomes,
 Making his way through fiercest enemies,
 As having now to cast in greater sommes
 The reck'ning of his hopes, that mainly rise;
 His father's death, gives more life unto wrath,
 And this last valour, greatest courage hath.

And now as for his last, his lab'ring worth
 Workes on the coast which on fair Severne lies,
 Whither, when Yorke set forward for the north,
 Hee's sent to levie other fresh supplies:
 But hearing now what Wakefield had brought forth,
 Imploring ayde against these injuries,
 Obtaines from Gloster, Worster, Shrewsbury,
 Important powres to worke his remedy;

Which he against Pembroke, and Ormond bends,
 Whom Margaret now upon her victory,
 With all speed possible from Wakefield sendes,
 With hope to have surpris'd him suddainly;
 Wherein though she all meanes, all wit extends,
 To th' utmost reach of wary pollicie,
 Yet nothing her awayles, no plots succeed
 T' avert those mischiefes which the heavens decreed.

For neere the Crosse christened by his owne name
 He crost those mighty forces of his foes,
 And with a spirit, borne for eternall fame,
 Their eger-fighting armes overthrowes."-----

Edward, having gained the Battle of Mortimer's Cross, hastened from Ludlow on his march towards the Metropolis, where, upon his arrival, he was put in possession of the crown amidst the acclamations of the people, assuming the title of Edward IV. on the fourth of March 1461, about the twentieth year of his age.

King Edward always evinced a favourable partiality towards the town of Ludlow, from
 whose

whose inhabitants he had received such powerful assistance ; and in the first year of his reign, granted the first Charter of Incorporation, in the preamble to which he recites the motives for this mark of his royal favour, viz.

“In consideration of the praise-worthy and gratuitous services, which our well-beloved and faithful subjects, the Burgesses of the town of Ludlow, have done in aid of recovering the right of the crown of England, with-held from us and our ancestors, and being therefore desirous for the bettering and relief of the town, &c. &c,” Other important royal favours were also granted to Ludlow during this prince’s reign, as stated by the Poet Churchyard :—

“King Edward fourth, for service truly done,
When Henry sixth and he had mortal warre :
No sooner he, by force the victorie wone
But with great things, the towne he did prefarre.
Gave lands thereto, and libertie full large,
Which royal gifts, his bountie did declare,
And dayly doth maintain the townes great charge :
Whose people now, in as great freedom are,
As any men, under this rule and crowne,
That lives and dwels, in citie or in towne.”—

It also appears that Edward’s munificence assisted in recovering Ludlow from the fallen and desolate state to which it had been reduced by adhering to his father’s cause. Many parts of the town were rebuilt by the inhabitants, large sums were expended on the Castle, and in a few years after we find it become the princely residence of his eldest son, who held his court here, in great pomp and splendour.

Neither was Edward attached to this part of the kingdom through the individual motive of self-interest; he spent all the leisure time he could spare from the weighty occupations of his situation, in the Castles of Ludlow and Wigmore. Lady Anne Neville, daughter to the great Earl of Warwick, was his favourite: she kept her court in Wigmore Castle, and all that was gay and fashionable in the adjacent parts of the country resorted thither to partake of the pleasures of the place.

This may account as a reason why, on any emergency, Edward generally resorted into these parts to raise assistance; for the Lords Marchers, tied down to him by repeated favours, acknowledged the same interests, and were animated by the same passions; connected besides, with their sovereign, by the incidents of tenure, formed by a train of mutual good offices and reciprocal attentions, they not only added to his magnificence in time of peace, but proved his greatest security in the trying seasons of hostility.

Fatal, says one of our historians, for England, was the ascension of the House of York to the throne: if the reign of Henry VI. was bloody, that of Edward IV. was not less so; the two-and-twenty years of his regal life, being, with few intermissions, one continued struggle against his

his enemies, whose efforts were powerfully exerted to wrest from him the crown to which he had raised himself. After a reign stained with blood and perplexed with difficulties, Edward died at the age of 42, with a presentiment of the evils which his family afterwards suffered. His last dying words, which were urgent in advising concord and unanimity, were addressed to those who were unwilling to promote peace by acts of justice and righteousness; to a society of relatives who secretly hated each other; to a brother, who, under the semblance of smiles and friendship, was plotting murder and usurpation. Hall has given the character of this monarch in expressive language. "This Edward was a goodly man of personage, of stature hyghe, of countenance and beautee comely, of sight quicke, brode breasted, and welle sette in every other parte conformable to his bodye, of a pregnant wytte, stomake stoute, and haulte courage, of perfect memori of such thinges as he conceived in his braine, diligent in his affaires and weighti business, in adventures bold and hardy, againe his adversaries feare and terryble, to his frendes liberal and bounteous, having in all his warres most prosperous and lucky successe, and eschewing all pleasure and sensualitee, to the which he was by nature most prone, for the which cause and for the lowlines

lowliness and humanity that was in him ingendered by nature most plentifully, he bare himself honestly among private persons, otherwise then the degree or dignity of his majesty required."

Under the superintendence of Lord Anthony Woodville Earl Rivers, brother to the Queen, the young Princes, Edward and his brother the Duke of York, had been resident in Ludlow Castle some time previous to their removal on the event of their father's death, and the former was proclaimed as Edward V. previous to their departure.

Their wicked and ambitious uncle, whose thoughts were intent on their destruction, contrived to separate the Princes from their tutor and his associates before they arrived in London; for without any reasonable pretence he arrested while on their journey, the Earl Rivers, Lord Gray, Sir Thomas Vaughan, and Sir Richard Hawt, who were all soon after beheaded at Pomfret.

The investment of the infant Prince with the title of King, was a cruel mockery, for in about two months after leaving their peaceful asylum of Ludlow, the royal brothers were murdered in the Tower.

The usurper, Richard III, immediately after his coronation, sent one James Tyrrel to the governor of the Tower, with an order signed by his

his own hand to deliver to him the government of that fortress for the space of twenty-four hours, and to give him the keys of all the rooms: Tyrrel being thereby master of the Tower, took away the lives of the two Princes, and caused them to be buried under a little step, where their bones were discovered in the reign of Charles II. by some labourers, who were digging at the foot of the old stairs leading into the chapel of the white tower; they were removed by the King's order to Henry the Seventh's chapel, and decently interred there, (near two other royal children, Mary and Sophia, daughters of James I.) under a monument of white marble with an inscription in latin, of which the following is a translation ;—

"Here lie, with the hope of Salvation, the remains of Edward V. King of England, and Richard Duke of York. Richard their Uncle, the treacherous Usurper of the Kingdom, ordered these brothers, shut up in the Tower of London, to be smothered with pillows thrown upon them, and secretly and basely buried. Their much wished for bones, for a long time diligently sought after, were found, and truly identified, deeply buried in the ruins of the stairs which formerly led to the Chapel in the White Tower. One hundred and ninety one years after their death, on the 17th day of July, 1674, the most compassionate King, Charles II. pitying their miserable end, paid due funeral rites to these unfortunate Princes, placing them among the monuments of their ancestors, A. D. 1668, in the 30th year of his reign."

Extraordinary gratuities were bestowed on the murderers; James Tyrrel was knighted and had given to him the stewardship of several Lordships in Wales and the Marches, for life; with numerous other offices and emoluments.

The

The other inferior agents in this act of wickedness were proportionally rewarded. But Divine Providence never suffers crime to go unpunished, and often brings upon the wicked, even in this life, a foretaste of the chastisements they may most certainly look forward to in a life to come. The old Chronicles enlarge on the subject of the judgments which befel the perpetrators of this deed of darkness. Miles Forest, John Dighton, and Sir James Tyrrel, were the immediate agents; of these, the first, "by piecemeal miserably rotted away." Dighton fled to Calais where he lingered out the last dregs of a bad life, hated and despised; and there, "he died in great misery." Tyrrel was, on the accession of Henry VII. arraigned, and after a full confession, beheaded on Tower Hill, and King Richard himself, "after this abominable dede dooen never was quiet in his minde, he never thought hymself sure where he went abroad, his eyen wherled about, his hand ever on his dagger: he toke evill rest on nightes, lay long wakyng and musyng, forweried with care and watche, rather slombred then slept, troubled with fearfull dreames, sodeinly some tyme sterte up, leapt out of his bed and looked aboute the chambres; so was his restlesse heart contynually tossed and tumbled with the tedious impression and stormy remembrance

braunce of his abhominable murther and execrable tyrannie. He was slain in the feelde hacked and hewed of his enemies handes, haried on a horsbacke naked; beyng ded, his beare in dyspite torne and tugged like a curre dogge."

Few will doubt the truth of this account of the tyrant's inward feelings: and it is also perfectly natural to suppose even the hired agents of murder to be not unfrequently troubled with compunctious misgivings: Shakespeare introduces Tyrrel saying in soliloquy,—

"The tyrannous and bloody act is done;
The most arch deed of piteous massacre
That ever yet this land was guilty of:
Dighton and Forest, whom I did suborn
To do this piece of ruthless butchery,
Albeit they were flesh villains, bloody dogs,
Melted with tenderness, and mild compassion,
Wept like two children, in their death's sad story:
O thus, quoth Dighton, lay the gentle babes,
Thus, thus, quoth Forest, girdling one another
Within their alabaster innocent arms:
Their lips were four red roses on a stalk,
And in their summer beauty kissed each other.
A book of prayers on their pillow lay,
Which once, quoth Forest, almost changed my mind;
But oh the Devil-----there the villain stopt:
When Dighton thus told on, we smothered
The most replenished sweet work of nature,
That from the prime creation e'er she framed.
Hence both are gone, with conscience and remorse
They could not speak, and so I left them both,
To bear these tidings to the bloody king."

The agents of others iniquity may try to console themselves by attributing a larger share of criminality to those by whom they have been hired, and by this weak mode of arguing quiet their own consciences; but the instigator and author
of

of crime can find no excuse to mitigate remorse, hence the ceaseless struggles in the mind of Richard, in peace, in retirement, and in his dreams ; even in the turbulence of warfare

“the little souls of Edward’s children”

seem to fight against him, and he exclaims in bitter anguish,

“O coward conscience ! how dost thou afflict me !
I shall despair ; there is no creature loves me ;
And if I die, no soul shall pity me.”

Richard enjoyed the fruits of his villany only about two years ; he was slain at the battle of Bosworth Field. At his death the Civil Wars of England, arising out of the contested claims of the York and Lancaster families, were finally closed : for the Duke of Richmond on his elevation to the throne, married Elizabeth, the eldest daughter of Edward IV. and the true Heiress of the House of York. By this marriage of policy, the interests of the two Houses became permanently united.

The period now approached when Ludlow Castle was once more to recover its pristine pomp and magnificence.

Cadwaladyr, the last of the british Kings, had foretold that his race should in a future age regain the sovereignty ; and Henry VII. tracing his descent from that Prince, did not fail to revive the recollection of this famous prophecy, by which means the popular voice was effectually

ally secured in his favour, the current belief being that he was predestinated to the high station he had attained. This prejudice was not a little strengthened by the more recent report of the dying words of Henry VI. which, it was asserted, expressed a presentiment of the revival of his name in the person of a more fortunate successor.

To these circumstances operating in Henry Tudor's favour we may also add, that he succeeded, not to a king respected and loved, but to a cruel and hateful tyrant. In the year 1501 Prince Arthur, king Henry's eldest son, was married at the age of fifteen, to the Princess Catherine of Arragon, who was in the eighteenth year of her age. The marriage ceremony of this juvenile couple was celebrated with magnificence and parade, after which the Prince held a splendid court at Ludlow Castle, his former and future residence. An account of this marriage by Master Edward Hall, affords a curious specimen of the manners and language of those times. "I passe over" (says this author) "the wise devises, the prudent speeches, the costlie workes, the cunning portratures, practised and set forth in seven goodlie beautifull pageants, erected and set forth in divers places of the citie. I leave also the goodlie ballades, the sweet harmonies, the musical instruments,

ments, which sounded with heavenly noise on every side of the streets. I omit further, the costlie apparrel, both of goldsmith's worke and embroidery, the rich jewels, the massie chaines, the striving horses, the beautifull barbs, and the glittering trappers, both with bells and spangles of gold. I pretermit also the rich apparrel of the Princess, the strange fashion of the spanish nation, the beautie of the yong damosels, the amorous countenance of the lustie bachelers. I passe over also the fine ingrained clothes, the costlie furs of the citizens, standing on scaffolds, raised from Grace-Church to Paules. What should I speake of the odoriferous scarlets, the pleasant furs, the massie chaines, which the Maior of London, sitting on horsebacke, at the little conduit at Cheape, ware on their bodies, and about their necks? I will not speake of the rich arras, the costlie tapestrie, the fine clothes, both of gold and silver, the curious velvets, the beautifull satens, nor the pleasaunt silkes, which did hang in every street where she passed; the wine that ran continuallie out of the conduits, and the gravelling of the streets needeth not to be remembered."

The Princess came riding from Lambeth, Friday November 12th, through the borough of Southwark to London Bridge; where she was received

received with a costly pageant of St. Catherine, St. Ursula and a train of Virgins. In her progress through the city other pageants were displayed, and the conduit in Cheap ran Gascoin wine. The marriage ceremony, on Sunday the 14th of November, was performed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by nineteen bishops. The Prince and his Bride were arrayed in white satin; and the splendour and magnificence of the nobility and courtiers, vieing with each other on this joyous occasion, was beyond all example. Chains of gold were worn of the value of £1000 to £1400, and the rich needlework, tissue and fur dresses were some of them valued at £1500 and upwards. Jousts and tournaments were exhibited for several days, with sumptuous banquets, disguisings and interludes; and the celebrity concluded with a numerous creation of Knights of the Bath, and of the Sword.

From these scenes of gaiety and spectacles of triumph the Prince hastened again to his province in the Marches; but he did not live to verify the hopes and expectations, which as well the nation in general, as those near his person, had largely entertained from the contemplation of his early virtues. He died universally regretted, in Ludlow Castle, the second of April, 1502. The funeral was conducted with much
mournful

mournful pomp ; and the Bishop of Lincoln, President of the Prince's court, bore a principal part in the sacred offices attending it. The corpse was inveloped in cerements, and lay in state in the Castle, during the space of three weeks. Then on St. George's day in the afternoon, it was removed in solemn procession to the Church of St. Lawrence. The Earl of Surrey, as principal mourner, followed near to the corpse ; and after him a large train of noblemen and others ; among whom were many of the principal citizens of Chester, who had come thus far to attend the obsequies of their beloved Prince. His banner was borne before the corpse by Sir Griffiths ap Rice, who was preceded by bishops, abbots, and others. When the corpse was conveyed into the choir, the dirge began ; and the Bishops of Lincoln, Salisbury, and Chester, read the three lessons. On the morrow the Bishop of Lincoln sung the mass of requiem. Doctor Edenham, almoner and confessor to the Prince,, "said a noble sermon, and took to his antyteme, Blessed are the dead, who die in the Lord."

On St. Mark's day the procession moved from Ludlow to Bewdley ; and (observes the narrator) "it was the foulest cold windye and rainy daye, and the worst waye, that I have seen." The corpse was placed in the choir of the

the chapel; and dirge and mass of requiem were performed; and every church where it rested was decorated with escutcheons. When they came to Worcester, the order of Friars censured the corpse at the town's end; and at the city gate the bailiffs and corporation met them. At the entrance of the churchyard, the Bishop of Worcester having now joined the train, the four bishops in rich copes censured the corpse; which was then borne under a canopy through the choir to a hearse illuminated with eighteen lights, and sumptuously garnished with arms. At dirge were nine lessons, after the custom of that church. The first five were read by abbots; the sixth by the prior of Worcester; the rest by the bishops, the Bishop of Lincoln reading the ninth. That night there was a goodly watch of Lords, and Knights, and many others.

In the morning at eight, the sacred rites were resumed; when the third mass of requiem, was sung by the Bishop of Lincoln. Customary offerings were made at the mass; "but to have seen the weeping when the offering was done, he had a hard heart that wept not." The sermon, "by a noble doctor" followed. After this all the prelates censured the corpse; and then, "with weeping and sore lamentation it was laid in the grave," at the south end of the high altar, where were all the divine services. The
orisons

orisons were said by the Bishop of Lincoln, also sore weeping. He set the crosse over the chest, and cast holye water and earth thereon." The comptroller of the Prince's household, his steward, and others brake their staves of office, and cast them into the grave. And thus concludes our author, "God have mercye on good Prince Arthur's soule."

Of this Prince, both contemporary and subsequent writers speak in terms of the warmest applause and admiration. His parts, his learning and accomplishments, far surpassed what could be expected from his youth, his rank, and the age in which he lived. But He, who from the conflict of human passions often produces great and unexpected good, had purposes to accomplish by the turbulence and impetuosity of Henry, the younger brother, which the mild virtues and suavity of Arthur would never have attempted.

Upon the Prince's death all his titles and powers reverted to the crown; but Bishop Smyth continued President of the council, as well after, as before the Duke of York was created Prince of Wales; and held the office till his death. In one of the state apartments of the Castle the Arms of Prince Arthur were "excellently wrought" in a superb escutcheon of stone; and there was an empalement of St. Andrew's

drew's cross, with Prince Arthur's Arms painted in one of the windows of the hall. His arms, two red lions and two golden lions, were also in another chamber, with the arms of north Wales, and south Wales. And in the chapel, which was "most trim and costly," the arms of Shyeth and other Lords Presidents were gallantly and bunningly set out."

Though Catherine had been publicly married to Arthur, yet during the few months of their union, the Prince's premature age and intervening sickness, ending in his death, had hindered actual consummation; and the Princess on her marriage with King Henry VIII. about six years afterwards, not only publicly upon oath declared this to be true, but offered herself to be examined by a committee of matrons.

It was therefore under a presumption that the widow of his brother was only such in name, and not indeed, that Henry was persuaded to make this beautiful and virtuous Princess his Queen.

It is not credible, nor will any rational person believe, that after having lived with his amiable consort for more than twenty years this libidinous monarch was induced to seek a divorce, from scruples of conscience; that he should so late begin to doubt the truth of what he at first never presumed to question. But

it has been handed down as a matter of undoubted historical fact that Henry having become violently in love with Anne Bullen, sought some plausible pretext for gaining possession of this new object of his lustful wishes. The immediate consequence was the deposition of the Queen, and the exaltation of Anne, her rival, to the dangerous station from which she also fell, learning too late, how much better it is

———"To be lowly born,
And range with humble livers in content;
Than to be perk'd up in a glitt'ring grief,
And wear a golden sorrow."

Catherine was deposed but not degraded, for true greatness, joined to virtuous resolution, defies all earthly power, and though depressed cannot be destroyed. Arraigned before the high consistorial court from which she was to receive the premeditated sentence, the mockery of justice, this injured Queen, kneeling at the feet of the King, spoke as follows,—

"Sir, I desire you to take some pittie upon mee and doe mee justice and right: I am a poore woman, a stranger borne out of your dominions, having here no indifferent counsell, and less assurance of friendship. Alasse, wherein have I offended, or what cause of displeasure have I given that you intend thus to put mee away? I take God to my judge, I have been to you a true and humble wife, ever conformible to your will and pleasure, never gaine-saying any thing wherein you tooke delight, without all grudge or discontented countenance; I have loved all them that loved you, howsoever their affections have been to mee-ward; I have borne you children, and been your wife now this twenty yeares; of my virginittie and marriage-bed, I make God and your owne conscience the judge, and if it otherways be proved, I am content to be put from you with shame. The king your father in his time for wisdom was known to be a second Solomon, and Ferdinando of Spaine my Father, accounted the wisest of their Kings; could they in this match be so farr over seen, or are there now wiser and more learned men, than at that time were? surely,
it

It seemeth wonderfull to mee that my marriage after twenty years should be thus called in question with new invention against mee who never intended but honesty. Alasse, Sir, I see I am wronged, having no counsell to speake for mee, but such as are your subjects, and cannot be indifferent on my part. Therefore I most humbly beseech you, even in charity to stay this course, until I may have advice and counsell from Spaine; if not your gracious pleasure be done."

Having delivered this short address, the Queen "making lowly obeysance to the King," departed quickly out of court, which being perceived, she was again, by the cryer, called upon by the name of Queen Catherine, but she disdainng to answer, said to her attendant, "on, on, this is no court for me to expect an equitable judgment from; therefore go forward."

This pathetic harangue, which was rendered still more interesting by the dignified deportment of the Queen, and by a consideration of her misfortunes, seemed in some degree to affect even the hearts of her enemies; the court was prorogued, and finally, a transfer of the cause was made to the See of Rome. In the mean time the unfortunate Catherine, perceiving all further opposition to be vain, retired to Ampthill near Dunstable, and died soon after at Kimbolton. The weight of her misfortunes lay heavy on her mind, and probably helped to shorten her days. If she charitably forgave her enemies, yet she did not cease to feel the injuries she had to suffer. Her false friends and hollow counsellors, who advised an unconditional

ditional submission to the will of her imperious husband, she addressed in language suitable to her high character and the baseness of those to whom it was directed.—

"I am about to weep; but thinking that
We are a queen, or long have dream'd so; certain
The daughter of a King; my drops of tears
I'll turn to sparks of fire.

Holy men I thought ye,
Upon my soul two rev'rend Cardinal virtues;
But Cardinal sins, and hollow hearts, I fear ye:
Mend 'em for shame, my Lords, is this your comfort?
The cordal that ye bring a wretched lady?
A woman lost among ye, laughed at, scorned?

We upon ye,
And all such false professors; would you have me
(If you have any justice, any pity,
If ye be any thing but Churchmen's habits)
Put my career into his hands that hates me?
Have I lived thus long (let me speak myself,
Since virtue finds no friends) a wife, a true one?
A woman (I dare say without vain glory;)
Never yet branded with suspicion;
Have I, with all my full affections
Met the King? loved him next to heaven, obeyed him?
Been out of fondness superstitious to him;
Almost forgot my prayers to content him?
And am I thus rewarded? 'tis not well, Lords,
My Lords, I dare not make myself so guilty,
To give up willingly that noble title
Your master wed me to: nothing but death
Shall e'er divorce my dignities.
Heaven is above all yet; there sits a Judge,
That no King can corrupt."

With all the dignity that belonged to her high station, the attributes of strong feeling and pious resignation were perfectly congenial, and a sense of what belonged to herself as a virtuous and exalted character remained with her to the last.—

"Alas! I am a woman, friendless, hopeless;
Shipwreck'd upon a kingdom, where's no pity,
No friends; no hope! no kindred weep for me!
Almost, no grave allow'd me: like the lily

That

That once was mistress of the field and sould's d,
I'll hang my head and perish.

When I'm dead; good wench,
Let me be us'd with honour; strew me over
With maiden flow'rs, that all the world may know
I was a chaste wife to my grave: embalm me,
Then lay me forth; although no queen'd, yet like
A Queen, and daughter to a King, inter me,

The following letter written by Catherine in her last moments is decisive evidence of her true character: it breathes a spirit of christian resignation; with a wish to forget injuries; accompanied by that generosity which only belongs to virtuous and amiable minds.

"My most dear Lord, King, and Husband.

The hour of my death now approaching, I cannot chuse, but out of the love I bear you, advise you of your soul's health, which you ought to prefer before all consideration of the world or flesh whatsoever. For which yet you have cast me into many calamities, and yourself into many troubles. But I forgive you all; and pray God to do so likewise. For the rest I commend unto you Mary our daughter, beseeching you to be a good Father to her, as I have heretofore desired. I must entreat you also, to respect my maids, and give them in marriage, which is not much, they being but three, and to all my other servants, a year's pay besides their due, lest otherwise they should be unprovided for: lastly, I make this vow, that my eyes desire you above all things.

Farewell."

From the time of Edward IV. there gradually arose in the Castle of Ludlow, a kind of national establishment under the name of, "The Council in the Marches of Wales." Henry VII. adopted the same policy as his father-in-law had done, and Prince Arthur's residence till his death, was for the same purpose as had been that of Edward V. and the Duke of York; to give authority and importance to this institution: and during two centuries, this place justified its ancient denomination of "a seat for the

the administration of justice to the neighbouring people."

The authority of the Lords Marchers, which remained undiminished for ages, and which was absolute within the limits of their respective districts, had been from an early period viewed with a jealous eye by the English Monarchs. Henry III. soon after the suppression of an insurrection headed by John Earl of Chester, and Richard Earl of Pembroke, principal Lords Marchers, resolved upon the conquest of Wales by his own proper forces. The Earl of Chester dying soon after, without male issue, the King resumed, by composition made with the Earl's four sisters and heirs, that great county Palatine of Chester, granted by the Norman Conqueror to the first Earl, his kinsman, and with it the greater part of the county of Flint, which the Earls of Chester, as Lords Marchers, had won from the Welch, to make way thereby for his entrance into Wales, to prosecute his intended conquest with greater facility.

This earldom and county of Flint, the King conferred on his son Edward, who succeeded him, first of that name, King of England. He reduced Flint into a county by the statute of Wales, and annexed its possessions and government to the earldom of Chester. From which

which time this earldom and county have been granted to Princes of Wales, to hold under the crown.

The Lords Marchers retained, however, their possessions exempted from the jurisdiction of the Prince; and continued the exercise of regal power without limitation or controul, even after the conquest of Wales; and when King Edward presumed to question by *quo warranto* the tenures and liberties of the Lords Marchers, Earl Warren, who was one of the principal of them, drawing his sword, answered "by this warrant my ancestors won their lands, and by this I do, and will hold mine;" which answer, all the Barons seconding, the enquiry ceased. Probably the peculiar circumstances of the times, and the great wars and troubles, foreign and domestic in which the King was engaged, made it prudent to submit to this insolent menace. In succeeding ages, the jurisdiction of these petty Princes gaining strength and importance, by degrees degenerated into a system of continual warfare between the Welch and English, with no other remedy than by reprisal.

Henry VII. born in Wales, and educated there under his uncle Jasper, Duke of Bedford and Earl of Pembroke, always manifested a favourable disposition towards, and endeavoured to promote the interest of, his native country.

With

With this view he attempted by degrees to bring the Lords Marchers under the crown, and to free the welch people from the oppression of the severe laws of Henry IV. By purchase, translation, and otherwise, he obtained several of these lordships; and by the attainder of Sir William Stanley, there devolved to him the extensive possessions of Bromfield in Yals, and Chirkland in north Wales, being a principal part of the possessions of the Marchers there. These, no intercessions could ever afterwards persuade him to relinquish.

On the death of this King, his son, Henry VIII. completed his father's undertaking, causing most of the property of the Lords Marchers to come to the crown, and the whole of the Principality of Wales to be incorporated and united to the realm of England. By the law of the union and ordinance of Wales, that country was made to partake of all the liberties and privileges of England, the jurisdiction of the Lords Marchers destroyed, and their baronies reduced into, or united to counties.

This last remnant of our old feudal tyranny, is admirably characterised, and its effects described, in the following extract from one of the eloquent speeches of the celebrated Edmund Burke.

“This country (Wales) was said to be reduced

ced by Henry III. : it was said more truly, to be so by Edward I. But, though then conquered, it was not looked upon as any part of the realm of England. Its old constitution, whatever that might have been, was destroyed ; and no good one was substituted in its place. The care of that tract was put into the hands of Lords Marchers,—a form of Government of a very singular kind ; a strange heterogeneous monster, something between hostility and government ; perhaps it has a sort of resemblance, according to the modes of those times, to that of commander in chief at present, to whom all civil power is granted as secondary.

The manners of the welch nation followed the genius of the government. The people were ferocious, restive, savage and uncultivated ; sometimes composed, never pacified. Wales, within itself, was in perpetual disorder ; and it kept the frontier of England in perpetual alarm. Benefit from it to the state, there was none. Wales was only known to England, by incursion and invasion.

During this state of things the english Parliament was not idle. They attempted to subdue the fierce spirit of the Welch by all sorts of rigorous laws. They prohibited by statute the sending of all sorts of arms into Wales. They disarmed them by statute. They made an act
to

to drag offenders from Wales into England for trial. By another act, where one of the parties was an Englishman, they ordained that his trial should be always by English. They made acts to restrain trade, and prevented the Welch from the use of fairs and markets. In short, when the statute book was not quite so much swelled as it is now, we find no less than fifteen acts of penal regulation on the subject of Wales. Let it not be forgotten that Wales, all the while rid this kingdom like an *incubus*; that it was an unprofitable and oppressive burthen; and that an Englishman travelling in that country, could not go six yards from the high road without being murdered.

The march of the human mind is slow. It was not, until after two hundred years, discovered, that by an eternal law, Providence has decreed vexation to violence, and poverty to rapine. Our ancestors did however at length open their eyes to the ill husbandry of injustice. They found that the tyranny of a free people could of all tyrannies the least be endured; and that laws made against a whole nation were not the most effectual methods for securing its obedience. Accordingly, in the twenty seventh year of Henry VIII. the course was entirely altered. With a preamble stating the entire and perfect right of the crown of England it gave the
Welch

Welch all the rights and privileges of english subjects. A political order was established; the military power gave way to the civil; the Marches were turned into counties. But that a nation should have a right to english liberties, and yet no share at all in the fundamental security of those liberties, the granting of their own property, seemed a thing so incongruous, that eight years after, that is, in the thirty fifth of that reign, a complete and not ill-proportioned representation by counties and boroughs was bestowed upon Wales, by act of Parliament. From that moment as by a charm, the tumults subsided; obedience was restored; peace, order and civilization followed in the train of liberty. When the day-star of the english constitution had arisen in their hearts all was harmony within and without."—

— "Simul alba nautis
Stella refulsit,
Defuit saxis agitatus humor;
Concidunt venti, fugiuntque nubes:
Et minax (quod sic voluere) ponto
Unda recumbit."

Hor. Lib. 1. Od. 12.

At the period of the union of the Principality with England, a more complete and effective Court of Justice for Wales was established on the ruins of the former Council or Court, and this latter only is recognised as the "Court for the Government of Wales." It was established in the year 1509, and consisted of a Lord President,

as

as many counsellors as the Prince pleased; a secretary, an attorney, a solicitor, and four justices for the Principality of Wales.

Two courts, one for the northern, and the other for the southern Marches, were formerly established in England, similar in form though not perhaps equal in importance. Of these, the learned Sir Thomas Smith, Secretary to Queen Elizabeth, gives the following account.

"King Henry the eight, ordained first a President, counsailours and judges, one for the Marches of Wales, at Ludlow, or elsewhere: another for the north parts of England, at Yorke, where bee many causes determined. These two are as bee Parliaments in France. But if there bee any matters of great consequence, the partie may move at the first, or remove it afterwards to Westminster Hall, and to the ordinary judges of the realme, or to the Chancellour, as the matter is. These two Courts doe heare matters before them part after the common Law of England, and part after the fashion of the Chancerie." And Richard Baxter, who lived here about the year 1630, as servitor to the chaplain of the Council, observes on this establishment as follows, "The House" says he, "was great, there being four judges, the king's attorney, the secretary, the clerk of the fines, with all their servants, and
all

all the Lord President's servants, and many more; and the Town was full of temptations, through the multitude of persons, counsellors, attorneys, officers and clerks, and much given to tippling and excess." From these remarks we may form a tolerable idea of the great resort of strangers to this place, as well as of the moral habits of the people, when the Town flourished in the height of its prosperity, supported by the splendour of its court.

In attempting to arrange a connected narrative of such particulars as are to be found in general and local histories, relative to Ludlow and its vicinity, some important, and it is hoped not uninteresting accounts have been collected. Great and celebrated characters have in a succession of ages, dignified the princely towers of Ludlow with their presence; and from its vicinity has arose the most considerable branch of the royal family of Plantagenet; which family, with occasional intermissions, flourished in regal greatness, though often stained with the blood of its own children, during the space of 330 years. History is the great teacher of wisdom to mankind; and its lessons are deduced alike from the crimes and the virtues of those who are raised to stations of high responsibility. The families of kings are more generally distinguished by the former, and by a succession of misfortunes

misfortunes which strongly excite pity : this is peculiarly the character of the line of Plantagenet. The seventh and eighth Henry's, conscious of the just claims of this rival house, pursued the unfortunate relatives of the family till the name became extinct. The last male was Edward Earl of Warwick, a child of most unhappy fortune, nursed in a prison from his cradle, and unjustly put to death by Henry VIII. ; and the last of the name was the sister of this unfortunate nobleman, a lady not more distinguished by her high birth, than by her piety and virtue. Not quietly submitting to her unjust and infamous sentence, but struggling with the executioner, she was forcibly dragged to the block, by the hands of a ruffian entangled in her hoary locks, made venerable by nearly eighty years ; a spectacle of horror which must have raised compassion in all hearts susceptible of noble and generous impressions.

BRIEF
Biographical Sketches
OF THE
PRESIDENTS OF WALES,
&c. &c.



ANTHONY Woodville Lord Rivers was "President of the Prince of Wales' Council" in the year 1473. He was brother to Elizabeth, Queen of Edward IV. and the most accomplished nobleman in the court of that monarch. To him was intrusted the education of his nephews, the two young Princes. He married the daughter and heiress of Thomas Lord Scales (who was Seneschal of Normandy, and a valiant and active soldier in the French wars,) on whose death in 1460 he was in his wife's right summoned to Parliament as Lord Scales. That he was complete master of those high feats of chivalry so much in repute in those days, we may learn from the old chronicles.

"————— And in the moneth of Juny followynge, were certayne actes and featys of warre

warre doone in Smythfelde, atwene sir Antony Wydenyll, called Lorde Scalys, vpon that one partye, and the Bastarde of Burgoyne, chalen-
gour on that one partye: of which the Lorde
Scalys wanne the honour: for the sayde Bas-
tarde was at the firste course rennyng, with
sharpe sperys overthrown horse and man,
whiche was by the rage of the horse of the sayde
Bastarde, and not by vyolence of the stroke of
his enemy, and by a pyke of iron, standynge
vpon the fore parte of the sadyl of the Lorde
Scalys, wherewith the horse beyng blynde of
the Bastarde, was stryken into the nose thryl-
les, and payne therof mounted so hyghe vpon
the hinder feet, that he fyl bakwarde. Vpon
the seconde day they met there agayne vpon
fote, and fawght with theyre axes a fewe
strokes. But whan the Kyng sawe that the Lorde
Scalys hadde auantage of the Bastarde, as the
poynte of his axe in the vysoure of his enemyes
helmet, and by force therof was lykely to have
born hym over, the Kyng in hast, cryed to
suche as hadde the rule of the felde, that they
shulde departe theym: and for more spede of
the same, caste downe a warderer which he
then helde in his hande: and so were they de-
parted to the honour of the Lorde Scalys for
both dayes." *Fab. Chron.* A. D. M, IV, LXVII.

He was a most valiant soldier, and constantly
employed

employed either in suppressing the tumults of those turbulent times, or in discharging the duties of some of the principal offices of state. Yet he found leisure to cultivate letters, and to be the author of works, which, though of little value now, made some noise at the time. These consisted chiefly of translations from the French. He was the great patron and restorer of learning, and his lordship, with his printer Caxton, were the first English authors who had the pleasure to see their works printed. There is a curious old engraving, belonging to a manuscript in the Archbishop's library at Lambeth, representing this nobleman attended by Caxton, presenting his book "The Dictes and Sayinges of Philosophers," to Edward IV. If the "Game of Chess" was the first book printed by Caxton, this by Lord Scales was the third, see Ames' History of Printing. vol. 1. p. 30.

He was born in the year 1442, treacherously imprisoned by Richard III. in Pontefract Castle, and by that tyrant's order, beheaded on the 23rd. of June, 1483, in the forty first year of his age. He wrote a poem during his imprisonment, which is preserved.

In 1478, John Alcock, L.L.D. and Bishop of Ely, was President of the Council. He was born at Beverley in Yorkshire, and educated at Cambridge. Was first made Dean of Westminster,

ster, and in 1471 consecrated Bishop of Rochester; in 1476 was translated to the See of Worcester, and in 1477 to that of Ely. He was a man of great learning and piety and so highly esteemed by King Henry VII. that he appointed him Lord President of the Council of Wales, and afterwards Lord Chancellor of England. Alcock founded a school at Kingston upon Hull, and built the spacious hall belonging to the episcopal palace of Ely. He was also the founder of Jesus College, Cambridge. He died in 1500.

William Smyth, Bishop of Lincoln was made Justice of the Peace, for the counties of Salop, Hereford, Gloucester, and the Marches, on the 20th March, 1492; he was President of the Council during the residence of Prince Arthur in the Castle; and afterwards, till his death. He was succeeded by Geoffry Blythe, Bishop of Lichfield, and John Harman, Bishop of Exeter, who successively assumed the Presidency, which the latter occupied till the termination of the original institution.

Sir Rowland Lee, Bishop of Lichfield, appointed in 1534, was the first Lord President, of what was properly denominated the "Court for the Government of Wales" and it was in his time that the complete division of Wales into counties, and the union of the two countries was effected.

effected. In the attainment of this important object the worthy Bishop was the most active agent chosen by King Henry VIII. Henry was undoubtedly a very vicious character; yet as bad qualities are often united to great talents, we generally find him to have exercised much skill in the selection of his ministers and officers of state, and the appointment of this prelate to the Lord Presidency is an evident example. During his very active administration the intolerable abuses in the Marches had been fully disclosed, and those districts were completely cleared of the bands of robbers with which they had been infested. Sir Rowland was probably keeping his court at Shrewsbury when he was seized with his last illness, and died at the house of his brother, the Dean of St. Chad's, in the college, January 4th, 1542.

In 1543, Richard Sampson, Bishop of Lichfield, was President. Removed 1548.

John Dudley, Earl of Warwick and Duke of Northumberland, presided in 1548. This notorious Duke was also Earl Marshal and Lord High Admiral, he was the son of Edmund Dudley, the detested associate of Empson; both agents, if not instigators of those tyrannical and oppressive acts, the recollection of which lay heavy on the conscience of the seventh Henry, on his death bed. The evil propensities of Dudley descended to

to his offspring through several generations. Among whom this "bold bad man," was not the least celebrated. He possessed ability, was courageous and enterprising; but fraudulent, unjust, and of unrelenting ambition. He had the address to prevail with Edward VI. to violate the order of succession, and settle the crown on his daughter-in-law, the Lady Jane Grey. Several historians speak of him as the greatest subject that ever was in England. He was executed for rebellion, in the first year of Queen Mary. It has been observed, that he had eight sons, of whom none had any lawful issue.

In 1549, Sir William Herbert, K. G. afterwards Earl of Pembroke, was President. This Peer, was the base-born son of William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke. Made esquire of the body, to King Henry VIII. he found means of ingratiating himself with that monarch, obtaining several offices in Wales, and enormous grants of abbey-lands in some of the southern counties. In 1554, the thirty seventh year of his age, he had the King's licence to retain thirty persons in his service, under his livery, badges, &c. the King's marriage with Catherine Parr, his wife's sister, increased his consequence; and Henry on his death bed appointed him one of his executors, and a member of the young King's Council. His activity in suppressing commotions in Wales, and
in

in some of the western counties of England, procured him the office of master of the horse; the order of the Garter, a valuable wardship, and the Presidency of the Council for Wales, were bestowed on him as a reward for important services against the Cornish rebels, which he performed at the head of one thousand Welchmen. He next became conspicuous as a commander of forces in Picardy, and Governor of Calais: and claimed as his reward, the titles of Baron Herbert and Earl of Pembroke, extinct by failure of legitimate heirs.

The aspiring Northumberland deemed it an object of importance to secure the support of a nobleman who now appeared at the head of three hundred retainers; and whose authority in Wales and the southern counties of England, formed an aggregate of power not exceeded by the hereditary influence of the most powerful and ancient houses. To engage him in his interest, Northumberland procured a marriage between Lord Herbert's son, and the Lady Catherine Grey; which was solemnized at the same time with that of Lord Guilford Dudley and Lady Jane, Catherine's eldest sister. The selfish ambition of Pembroke was not to be arrested in its progress by any ties of friendship or alliance: when his sagacity discovered the falling fortunes of his associates, he was therefore quickly induced

duced to sacrifice others to effect his own escape; for though he concurred in the measures of the privy council in behalf of Lady Jane's title to the crown, it was by artifices of his own devising that the proclamation of Mary took place with the sanction of that body. By this act he secured the favour of the new Queen, whom he further propitiated by compelling his son to divorce the innocent and ill-fated Lady Catherine. Mary confided to him the charge of suppressing Wyatt's rebellion, and afterwards made him captain-general beyond the seas; in which capacity he commanded the English forces at the battle of St. Quintins. Elizabeth chose him of her privy council on her accession, and afterwards, in conjunction with Northampton, Bedford, and Lord John Grey, appointed him to assist at the meetings of divines and men of learning, for the final settling of the religious establishment of the country. He was likewise made commissioner for administering the oath of supremacy. His death happened in the year 1570, in the sixty third year of his age.

Naunton, in his "*Fragmenta Regalia*," speaking of Paulet, Marquis of Winchester and Lord-treasurer; who, he says had then served four princes, "in as various and changeable seasons that well I may say, neither time nor age hath yielded the like precedent," thus proceeds;
"this

"this man being noted to grow high in her (Queen Elizabeth's) favour, was questioned by an intimate friend, how he stood up for thirty years together amidst the changes and reigns of so many chancellors and great personages. "Why," quoth the Marquis, "*Ortus sum ex salice, non ex quercu.*" (By being a willow and not an oak.) "And truly the old man hath taught them all, especially William Earl of Pembroke; for they two were ever of the King's religion, and ever zealous professors."

Among the means employed by Pembroke for preserving the Queen's favour, was that of paying his court to her minister Robert Dudley; and Lord Herbert, whose first marriage had been contracted in compliance with the views of the father, now formed a third in obedience to the wishes of the son. The lady to whom he was thus united by motives in which inclination had probably no share on either side, was the niece of Dudley, and sister to Sir Philip Sidney; one of the most accomplished women of her age; celebrated during her life, by the wits and poets whom she patronized, and preserved in the memory of posterity by the following epitaph from the pen of Ben Jonson, which will not be forgotten whilst English poetry remains.

"Underneath this marble hearse
Lies the subject of all verse,
Sidney's sister, Pembroke's mother;
Death, ere thou hast slain another
Learn'd and fair, and good as she,
Time shall throw his dart at thee."

Nicholas Heath, Bishop of Worcester, occupied the Presidency in 1553, which being again given to the Earl of Pembroke during a short period, devolved in 1555 to Gilbert Bourne, Bishop of Bath and Wells. Heath and Bourne, were two of the five catholics chosen by Queen Mary to succeed that number of reformed Bishops who were deposed on her accession. The next person mentioned as President, is Lord Williams of Tame, who was succeeded in the beginning of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, by Sir Henry Sidney, K. G. "Sir Henry Sidney," (says Miss Aikin, in her interesting Memoirs of the Court of Elizabeth,) "was one of the most upright, as well as able of the ministers of Elizabeth: that he was the father of Sir Philip Sidney was the least of his praises: and it may be cited as one of the caprices of fame, that he should be remembered by his son, rather than his son by him. Those qualities which in Sir Philip could afford little but the promise of active virtues, were brought in Sir Henry to the test of actual performance; and lasting monuments of his wisdom and his goodness, remain in the institutions by which he softened the barbarism of Wales, and appeased the more dangerous turbulence of Ireland by promoting its civilization."

Sir Henry was the son of Sir William Sidney, a gentleman of good parentage in Kent, whose

mother was of the family of Brandon and nearly related to the Duke of Suffolk of that name, the favourite and brother-in-law of Henry VIII. Sir William in his youth had made one of a band of gentlemen of figure, who, with their Sovereign's approbation, travelled into Spain and other countries of Europe, to study the manners and customs of their respective courts. He likewise distinguished himself at the field of Flodden. The King stood godfather to his son Henry, born in 1529, and caused him to be educated with the Prince of Wales, to whom Sir William was appointed tutor, chamberlain, and steward. The excellent qualities and agreeable talents of young Sidney, soon endeared him to Edward, who made him his inseparable companion and often his bedfellow; he kept him in close attendance on his person during his long decline, and sealed his friendship by breathing his last in his arms.

During the short reign of this lamented Prince, Sidney had received the honour of knighthood; and had been intrusted, at the early age of one and twenty, with an embassy to the French King; in which he acquitted himself so ably that he was soon afterwards sent in a diplomatic character to Scotland. He had likewise formed connections which had important influence on his after fortunes. Sir John Cheke held

held him in particular esteem, and through his means he had contracted a cordial friendship with Cecil, of which in various ways he found the benefit to the end of his life. A daughter of the all-powerful Duke of Northumberland honoured him with her hand; a dangerous gift, which was likely to have involved him in the ruin which the guilty projects of that audacious man drew down upon the heads of himself and his family.

But the prudence or loyalty of Sidney preserved him from the snare. No sooner had his royal master breathed his last, than relinquishing all concern in public affairs, he withdrew to the safe retirement of his own seat at Penshurst, where he afterwards afforded an asylum to such of the Dudleys, as had escaped death or imprisonment.

Queen Mary seems to have held out an earnest of future favour to Sidney, by naming him among the noblemen and knights appointed to attend Philip of Spain to England for the completion of his nuptials; and this Prince further honoured him by becoming sponsor to his afterwards celebrated son and giving him his own name. But Sidney soon quitted a Court, in which a man of protestant principles could no longer reside with satisfaction, if with safety, and accompanied to Ireland his brother-in-law Viscount Fitzwalter, then Lord Deputy. In that Kingdom he first bore

bore the office of Vice Treasurer, and afterwards, during the frequent absences of the Lord Deputy, the high one of sole Lord Justice.

The accession of Elizabeth enabled Lord Robert Dudley to make a large return for the former kindnesses of his brother-in-law; and supported by the influence of this distinguished favourite, in addition to his personal claims, Sir Henry rose in a few years to the dignities of Privy Counsellor and Knight of the Garter. After his embassy to France he was appointed to the post of Lord President of Wales, to which, in 1565, the still more important one of Lord-deputy of Ireland was added;—an union of two not very compatible offices, unexampled in our annals before or since. It is evident from Elizabeth's steadiness in persisting to appoint and re-appoint him to this most perplexing department of public service, in spite of all the cabals of English or Irish growth, that though his favour with her might be sometimes shaken, her rooted opinion of his probity and sufficiency could never be overthrown.

From a perusal of the Sidney papers it is abundantly evident, that neither the superiority of his understanding nor the purity of his motives could secure Sir Henry from the attacks of malice, and the train of evils which too commonly pursue and overwhelm great and good men

men in high stations ; but in his domestic concerns he was more fortunate, and could not fail to be highly gratified in the singular happiness of being the father of a son, so deservedly the idol of his own, and the admiration of succeeding ages.

“ Sir Philip Sidney was educated by the cares of a wise and excellent father, in the purest and most excellent moral principles, and in the best learning of the age. A letter of advice which this affectionate parent addressed to him at the age of twelve, fully exemplifies both the laudable solicitude of Sir Henry respecting his future character, and the soundness of his views and maxims : in the character of his son on his advancing to manhood, he saw his hopes exceeded and his prayers fulfilled. Nothing could be more correct than his conduct, more laudable than his pursuits, while on his travels ; young as he was, he merited the friendship of Hubert Languet. He also gained just and high reputation for the manner in which he conducted himself in an embassy to the protestant princes of Germany. He was among the English travellers doomed to be eye-witnesses of the dreadful massacre of St. Bartholomew, being then only eighteen years of age. On that night of horrors, he took shelter in the house of Walsingham, and thus escaped all personal danger ; but his after-conduct

conduct fully proved how indelible was the impression left upon his mind of the monstrous wickedness of the French royal family, and of the disgrace and misery which an alliance with it must entail on his Queen and country.

His indiscriminate thirst for glory was in some measure the foible of his character, and hence, in correspondence with one of his favourite maxims,

"Aut viam inveniam aut faciam ;"

he meditated to join one of the almost piratical expeditions of Drake, against the Spanish settlements. It is probable he was diverted from this design by the strong and kind warning of his true friend Languet ; "to beware lest the thirst of lucre should creep into a mind which had hitherto admitted nothing but the love of truth, and an anxiety to deserve well of all men." If, as has been alleged, he was led by his wish to conciliate the Queen's favour, to some acts of adulation unworthy of his spirit, for these he made large amends by his noble letter against the French marriage. He afterwards undertook with a zeal and ability highly honourable to his heart and his head, the defence of his father, accused but finally acquitted. This business involved him in disputes with the Earl of Ormond, his father's enemy ; who seems to have generously overlooked provocations which might have led to

to more serious consequences, in consideration of the filial feelings of his youthful adversary."

In the contest which Elizabeth pursued, in conjunction with the Dutch, in support of the protestant cause against the Duke of Parma, Sir Philip Sidney distinguished himself by a well conducted surprize of the town of Axel; and received in reward, the honour of knighthood from the hands of his uncle. Afterwards, having made an attack with the horse under his command on a reinforcement which the enemy was attempting to throw into Zutphen, a hot action ensued; in which, though the advantage remained with the English, it was dearly purchased by the blood of their gallant leader, who received a shot above the knee, which after sixteen days of acute suffering, brought his valuable life to its termination.

Thus perished at the early age of thirty-two, the pride and pattern of his time, the theme of song, and the favourite of English story. The beautiful anecdote of his resigning to the dying soldier the draught of water with which he was about to quench his thirst as he was carried faint and bleeding from the fatal field, is told to every child; and inspires a love and reverence for his name, which never ceases to cling about the hearts of his countrymen. He is regarded as the most perfect example which English history affords

affords of the *preux Chevalier* ; and is named in parallel with the spotless and fearless Bayard, the glory of Frenchmen, whom he excelled in all the accomplishments of peace, as much as the other exceeded him in the number and splendour of his military achievements.

His death was worthy of the best parts of his life ; he shewed himself to the last devout, courageous, and serene. On the whole though justice claims the admission that the character of Sidney was not entirely free from the faults most incident to his age and station, and that neither as a writer, a scholar, a soldier, or a statesman ; (in all which characters, during the course of his short life, he appeared ; and appeared with distinction ;) is he entitled to the highest rank ; it may yet be firmly maintained that, as a *man* ; an accomplished and high-souled man ; he had among his contemporary countrymen neither equal, nor competitor. Such was the verdict in his own times, not of flatterers only, or of friends, but of England, and Europe ; such is the title of merit under which the historian may enrol him, with confidence and with complacency, among the illustrious few whose names and examples still serve to kindle in the bosoms of youth the animating glow of virtuous emulation.

Sir Henry Sidney was spared the anguish of
following

following such a son to the grave ; having himself quitted the scene a few months before.

Domestic occurrences had taught Sir Henry that his near connection with the Earl of Leicester had its dangers as well as advantages ; and observing the turn for show and expense with which it served to inspire the younger members of his family, he would frequently enjoin them "to consider more whose sons than whose nephews they were." In fact he was not able to lay up fortunes for them ; the offices he held were higher in dignity than emolument, his spirit was noble and munificent ; and the following among other anecdotes may serve to show that he himself was not averse to a certain degree of parade, at least on particular occasions. The Queen standing once at a window of her palace at Hampton Court, saw a gentleman approach escorted by two hundred attendants on horseback ; and turning to her courtiers, she asked with some surprise, who this might be ? But on being informed that it was Sir Henry Sidney, her Lord Deputy of Ireland and President of Wales, she answered, "and he may well do it, for he has two of the best offices in my kingdom."

But if his attachment to the vain distinction of pomp and show may be accounted a weakness, yet in his private history abundant evidence remains of the soundness of his judgment, the
goodness

goodness of his heart, and the integrity of his character. No truly wise, pious, or good man, ever persecuted, or sanctioned the practice in others; and we find it recorded to his honour, that in opposing the persecuting rage of the time in which he lived, Sir Henry subjected himself to the imminent danger of becoming the victim of courtly or priestly intrigue, and of losing that portion of the royal favour which he had so long deservedly enjoyed.

Dr. Whitgift, Bishop of Worcester, and Vice President of the Marches of Wales under Sir Henry Sidney, peculiarly distinguished himself by his activity in detecting secret religious meetings of catholics: and for his zeal was rewarded by the privy council; who directed to him and to some of the Welch Bishops, a special commission for the trial of those delinquents. They further instructed him, in the case of one Morice who had declined answering directly to certain interrogatories tending to criminate himself in these matters, that if he remained obstinate, and the commissioners saw cause, they might, at their discretion, subject him to some kind of torture. The same means he was also desired to take with others, in order to come to a full knowledge of all reconcilements to the Church of Rome, and other practices of papists in these parts. See Strype's Life of Whitgift, p. 83.

G

Among

Among the Sidney Papers, volume 1, p. 276, is a letter of considerable length on the subject of this commission, directed to Sir Henry, and written by Sir Francis Walsingham, Secretary of State; in which, after stating that the said commission had lain dormant for more than a year, a fear is expressed that, "a very hard construction would be made of his keeping it so long and doing no good therein, notwithstanding his having made journies in Wales to do somewhat in the cause of religion." It is further stated in the letter, that blame is attributed to him for acting without the concurrence of those more zealously inclined persons mentioned in the said commission: and attached to the letter is a postscript to the following effect. "Your Lordship had need to walk warily, for your doings are narrowly observed, and her Majesty is apt to give ear to any that shall speak ill of you. Great hold is taken by your enemies for neglecting the execution of this commission."

Dated, Oatlands, August 9, 1580.

If we justly appreciate the character of Sir Henry, we shall not be surprised at his aversion to join with persons influenced by a spirit of persecution, which led men to hate and destroy each other for difference of opinions, religious, or political. Indeed this horrid vice arose
from

from the ignorance and wickedness of the age, and among the dignified and powerful at that period, none were free from the contagion except a few eminently exalted characters, distinguished by superior wisdom and benevolence. Successive ages of civilization have now brought us to a more enlightened æra, in which reason and justice are predominant.

Sir Henry's conduct in his official capacity was exemplary; and we shall also find, by consulting authentic papers, which have been published relative to himself and family, that wisdom and true christian piety influenced and guided his life in all its relations, civil and social. There is, among the papers above-mentioned, a letter, which has been already referred to as containing important instructions for the conduct of life. The preceptive part of this letter is estimable in itself, and as a specimen of Sir Henry's style of thinking and writing in his private studies, may with propriety be here introduced.—

"Let your first action be the lifting up of your mind to almighty God, by hearty prayer, with continual meditation, and thinking of him to whom you pray, and of the matter for which you pray. And use this as an ordinary act, and at an ordinary hour. Whereby the time itself will put you in remembrance to do that which you are accustomed to do. In your study apply yourself such hours as your discreet master doth assign you, earnestly; and the time (I know) he will so limit, as shall be both sufficient for your learning, and safe for your health. And mark the sense of that you read, as well as the words. So shall you both enrich your tongue with words, and your wit with matter; and judgment will grow as years grow in you. Be humble and obedient to your master, for unless you frame yourself to obey others, yea, and feel in yourself what obedience is, you shall never be able to teach others to obey you. Be courteous of gesture, and affable to all men, with diversity of reverence, according to the dignity

dignity of the person. There is nothing that winneth so much with so little cost. Use moderate diet, so as, after your meat, you may find your wit fresher, and not duller, and your body more lively, and not more heavy. Seldom drink wine, and yet sometimes do, lest being enforced to drink upon the sudden, you should find yourself inflamed. Use exercise of body, but such as is without peril of your joints or bones, it will increase your force, and enlarge your breath. Delight to be cleanly, as well in all parts of your body, as in your garments. It shall make you grateful in each company, and otherwise loathsome. Give yourself to be merry, for you degenerate from your father if you find not yourself most able in wit and body, to do anything, when you be most merry: but let your mirth be ever void of all scurrility, and biting words to any man; for a wound given by a word is oftentimes harder to be cured, than that which is given with the sword. Be you rather a hearer and bearer away of other men's talk, than a beginner or procurer of speech, otherwise you shall be counted to delight to hear yourself speak. If you hear a wise sentence, or an apt phrase, commit it to your memory, with respect of the circumstance, when you shall speak it. Let never oath be heard to come out of your mouth, nor word of ribaldry; detest it in others, so shall custom make to you a law against it in yourself. Be modest in each assembly and rather be rebuked of light fellows, for maiden-like shame-facedness, than of your sad friends for pert boldness. Think upon every word that you will speak before you utter it. Above all things tell no untruth, no not in trifles. The custom of it is naughty, and let it not satisfy you, that for a time the hearers take it for a truth, for after it will be known as it is to your shame: for there cannot be a greater reproach to a gentleman than to be accounted a liar. Study and endeavour yourself to be virtuously occupied. So shall you make such an habit of well-doing in you, that you shall not know how to do evil, though you would. Remember, my son, the noble blood you are descended of, by your mother's side; and think that only by virtuous life and good actions you may be an ornament to that illustrious family; and otherwise, through vice and sloth, you shall be accounted "labe generis," one of the greatest curses that can happen to man."

In the history of Shrewsbury a curious account is given of a visit of Sir Henry, to that place, and his journey from his Castle of Ludlow, which as it illustrates ancient manners is not destitute of interest. From this account we shall extract a specimen of the Poetical orations on occasion of Sir Henry's departure, whose conveyance being in a barge on the river Severn, a number of boys, fantastically dressed for the occasion,

occasion, were stationed beside the river to accost him as his suit passed by.

"There were placed by the water side certain appointed scholars of the Free School, being apparelled all in green, with green willows on their heads, marching by and calling to him, making their lamentable orations, sorrowing for his departure."—

One boy alone, thus addressed him,

"Oh staye the barge, rowe not so faste,
Rowe not so faste, oh, staye awhile,
Oh staye to heare the playntes at least
Of nymphs that harbour in this isle.

Their woe is great, great moan they make,
With doleful tones they doe lament,
They howle, they crye, their leave to take,
Their garments greene for woe they rent.

Oh, Seaverne turne thy streame quite backe,
Alas! why dost thou us anoye
Wilt thou cause us this Lord to lacke,
Whose presence is our only joy.

But harke! methinks I heare a sounde,
A woeful sounde I plainly heare,
Some sorrow great their hearte doth wounde.
Pass on my Lord to them, drawe neare."

Four boys appear in green, singing,

"O woeful wretched tyme, oh doleful day and houre,
Lament we may the loss we have, and floods of tears out poure,
Come nymphs of woods and hilles, come help us moan we pray,
The water nymphs our sisters dear, do take our Lord away."

"Bewayle we may our wrongs, revenge we cannot take,
Oh that the gods would bring him back, our sorrows for to shake."

One boy alone, with music,

"O thrice unhappy wight,
O sillie soule what hap have I, to see this woeful sight;
Shall I now leave my lovinge Lord, shall he now from me goe,
Why will he Salop nowe forsake, alas why will he see."

"Alas my sorrows doe increase, my heart doth rent in twayne,
For that my Lord doth hence depart, and will not here remain."

He

He died in the Bishop's Palace in Worcester, A. D. 1586, and was conveyed from thence to his house at Penshurst in Kent, where he was most honourably interred. He was, however, previously embowelled; his entrails were buried in the Dean's Chapel in the Cathedral Church at Worcester; and his heart was brought to Ludlow, and deposited in the same tomb with his dearly beloved daughter Ambrosia, within the little oratory which he had made in the Church of St. Lawrence. The leaden urn which contained his heart was lately in the possession of Mr. S. Nicholas of Leominster, who communicated to the Gentleman's Magazine an exact description and drawing of it, copied in that work in September, 1794. It is about six inches deep and five in diameter at the top, with the following inscription, dated the year of his demise:

HER LITH THE HARTE OF

SYR HENRY SIDNEY, L. P.

Anno Domini, 1586.

In the same year he was succeeded by his son-in-law Henry Earl of Pembroke, who continued till his death, May 5, 1601. To whom succeeded Edward Lord Zouch of Codnore, who died 1605. From 1610 to 1612, Ralph Lord Eure, Baron of Malton presided; his remains are in Ludlow Church.

Thomas Lord Gerard of Bromley, was appointed

pointed in 1616, and during his year of Presidency the Castle was honoured with a visit from Prince Charles, (afterwards Charles I.) who celebrated with great pomp and magnificence his accession to the Principality of Wales, and Earldom of Chester. In the year following, on the 12th of November, William Earl of Northampton, was invested with the office. He continued till his death, June 24, 1630, and was succeeded by Sir John Egerton, son of the Lord Chancellor Egerton, created afterwards Earl of Bridgewater; he was appointed President June 26, 1631, by King Charles I. who about this time again visited Ludlow, and was welcomed with much ceremony and rejoicing. An old manuscript states, "that he entered the Castle amidst the discharge of the great guns and firelocks of the soldiers, attended by all the officers magnificently dressed and mounted: and so great was the pomp, that the like thereof was never before seen in these parts."

The Mask of Comus was acted in the Castle of Ludlow during the Presidency of the Earl of Bridgewater. That exquisite effusion of the youthful genius of Milton had its origin in a real incident. When the Earl entered on his official residence, he was visited by a large assemblage of the neighbouring nobility and gentry. His sons the Lord Brackley and Mr. Thomas Egerton,

ton, and his daughter the Lady Alice, being on their journey, "to attend their father's state and new intrusted sceptre," were benighted in Haywood forest, in Herefordshire, and the Lady for a short time was lost. The adventure being related to their father on their arrival at the Castle, Milton, at the request of his friend Henry Lawes, who taught music in the family, wrote the Mask, Lawes composed the music, and it was acted on Michaelmas night; the two brothers, the young lady, and Lawes himself bearing each a part in the representation.

This poem, familiar to every English reader, has been allowed by the most competent judges, to be one of the finest compositions of the kind, in the English language, and will ever be held in peculiar estimation, as exhibiting the fair dawn of that genius which burst forth in full splendour in the divine poem of *Paradise Lost*.

"We must not," says Warton, "read *Comus* with an eye to the stage, or with the expectation of dramatic propriety. *Comus* is a suite of speeches, not interesting by discrimination of character, not conveying a variety of incidents, nor gradually exciting curiosity, but perpetually attracting attention by sublime sentiments, by fanciful imagery of the richest vein, by an exuberance of picturesque description, poetical allusion, and ornamental expression.

There

There is a chastity in the application and conduct of the machinery; and Sabrina is introduced with much address after the two brothers had imprudently suffered the enchantment to take effect. This is the first instance in which the old English Mask has in some degree been reduced to the principles of a rational composition; yet still it could not but retain some of its arbitrary peculiarities."

To this eulogy may be added the praise of having displayed the loveliness of virtue, and exposed the deformity of vice, by a lively and consistent allegory, and by a succession of just and moral sentiments, enforced with all the enchantment of poetic eloquence. So well is the tone of Milton's numbers sustained throughout the piece, that to give a specimen of its excellence, any passage might be promiscuously taken.

In the conduct of the fable, in the structure of the blank verse, and in certain peculiarities of diction, Shakspeare is closely copied. The following passage is a curious instance of the success with which he had been studied.

"He that has light within his own clear breast,
May sit i'th' centre and enjoy bright day;
But he that hides a dark soul and foul thoughts
Benighted walks under the mid-day sun;
Himself is his own dungeon."

The conclusion of the Mask strongly evinces that the author never intended it for general representation.

representation, and that he had no other view than the particular purpose for which, at the request of his friend, he undertook it. The scene changes from the magic palace of Comus, to a view of the Town and Castle of Ludlow; and one of the songs is addressed, to the Earl and his Countess, congratulating them on the constancy of their children in the trials to which their virtue had been exposed.

It is singular to remark that this composition met with a reception much more favourable than the later and more mature works of Milton. It was represented by noble actors, on a stage, and before auditors equally noble. But whatever honours accrued to the poet on this account, were in the lapse of a few ages to reflect on his patrons from the splendour of his name.

The pomp and pageantry, the princely magnificence that attended the Court of the Marches were soon to disappear, and the stillness of desolation was to succeed to the bustle of festivity and merriment. This proud Castle which once held dominion over a whole Principality, was to be abandoned to decay, to be spoiled of every memorial of its illustrious inhabitants, and to be left an awful monument of the mutability of human affairs. Yet even in this state it might still excite interest; though ruined it might be venerable, though solitary it could never be wholly

wholly deserted ; and the traveller, who turned aside to view its ruins, would pause, ere he passed on, to do homage to the memory of the divine poet, who had hallowed them with his immortal strains :—

“ Here Milton sung, what needs a greater spell
To lure thee stranger to these far-fam’d walls?
Though chroniclers of other ages tell
That princes oft have grac’d fair Ludlow’s halls,
Their honours glide along oblivious stream,
And o’er the wreck a tide of ruin drives;
Faint and more faint the rays of glory beam
That gild their course—the bard alone survives.
And when the rude unceasing shocks of time,
In one vast heap shall whelm this lofty pile,
Still shall his genius, towering and sublime,
Triumphant o’er the spoils of grandeur smile;
Still in these haunts, true to a nation’s tongue,
Echo shall love to dwell, and say, here Milton sung.”

On the commencement of the civil wars of Charles I. Ludlow espoused the royal cause, and was fortified for the King. In the summer of 1645, a force of near two thousand horse and foot, drawn together out of the garrisons of Ludlow, Hereford, Worcester, and Monmouth, was defeated in an engagement at Stokesay, near Ludlow, by an inferior number of the Parliamentary forces : in this battle Sir William Croft, of Croft Castle, was slain ; in the year following, June 9, the Castle was delivered up by Sir Michael Woodhouse, to Sir William Brereton.

The Earl of Bridgewater died in 1648, and was succeeded by Richard Lord Vaughan, Earl of Carberry : during the greater part of his time

time the Castle was strongly garrisoned for the Parliament. Here amidst the noise and bustle of civil dissensions, we find this worthy nobleman encouraging genius and affording a comfortable asylum to Butler, the satirical author of *Hudibras*.

In 1667 Henry Somerset, Marquis and Earl of Worcester, was Lord President, he was son of the celebrated Edward, Marquis of Worcester, the most extraordinary projector upon record. Henry was, in his father's life time, created Earl of Glamorgan by Charles I. and by Charles II. appointed President of the Council for the Principality of Wales, elected Knight of the Garter, and created Duke of Beaufort.

Prince Rupert presided in 1679, and is supposed to have continued till his death, which happened November 29, 1692. This prince, of the royal line of Stewart, was the third son of Frederick, King of Bohemia and Elector Palatine, by Elizabeth daughter of James I. of England, born at Prague, 1619. He was Count Palatine of the Rhine, Duke of Bavaria, and Cumberland, Earl of Holderness, and Knight of the Garter. He had not exceeded the thirteenth year of his age, when, with Henry, then Prince of Orange, he marched to the siege of Rhineberg; at eighteen years of age he commanded a regiment of horse in the German wars; and being taken prisoner at the battle of Ulota, by the Imperialists,

ists, he continued in captivity three years. In 1642 he came to England and offered his services to King Charles I. his uncle, who gave him a command in his army : and having performed important services in the royal cause, he was rewarded by the King with various honours and emoluments.

At Edgehill he charged with incredible bravery and made a great slaughter among the Parliamentarians. In 1643, he seized the town of Cirencester ; obliged the governor of Lichfield to surrender ; and having joined his brother Prince Maurice, reduced Bristol in three days, and passed to the relief of Newark. In 1644 he marched to relieve York, where he gave the Parliamentarians battle, and entirely defeated their right wing ; but Cromwell charged the Marquis of Newcastle with such an irresistible force, that Prince Rupert was entirely defeated. After this the Prince put himself into Bristol, which surrendered to Fairfax, after a gallant resistance.

It is not easy to gather laurels in fighting against a conquering enemy : but if Prince Rupert could not by his prowess avert the inevitable overthrow of the party he had engaged to support, yet after he had left the kingdom his successful contest with the Dutch fleet, under De Ruyter, drew from Dryden and other contemporary

rary Poets, as well as from the chroniclers of of these times, encomiums which might seem extravagant, if it were not known that his bravery was above all praise.

This Prince is celebrated for the invention of mezzotinto engraving, of which he is said to have taken the hint from a soldier scraping his rusty fusil. The first print of this kind ever published was done by his Highness, and may be seen in the first edition of "Evelyn's Sculptura." The secret is said to have been soon after discovered by Sherwin the engraver, who made use of a loaded file for laying the ground. The Prince upon sight of one of his prints suspected his servant had lent him his tool, which was a channelled roller, but upon being satisfied to the contrary, he made him a present of it. The roller was afterwards laid aside, and an instrument with a crenelled edge, in shape like a shoemaker's cutting knife, was used instead of it. The glass drops invented by him are well known. He also invented a metal called by his name, of which guns were cast; and contrived an excellent method of boring them, for which purpose a water-mill was erected at Hackney Marsh. He communicated to Christopher Kirby, the secret of tempering the best fish-hooks made in England.

Prince Rupert, who was a man of harsh features,

tures, a great humourist, and of little elegance in his manners or dress, was but indifferently qualified to shine in the Court of Charles II. He made a much better figure in his laboratory; or at the head of his fleet; in which station he was equal, in courage at least, to any of the sea officers of this reign. He died at his house in Spring Gardens, 29th of November, 1682. On his death Somerset, Marquis and Earl of Worcester was a second time appointed to the Presidency by King James II. and in 1684 Sir John Bridgeman was President. He was a very severe man, frequently committing persons to the Porter's Lodge, for trifling offences; on which account one Ralph Gittins, who had probably experienced his severity, composed the following distich.—

"Here lies Sir John Bridgeman, clad in his clay.
God said to the devil, sirrah, take him away."

He was buried in Ludlow Church.

Charles, Lord Gerard of Brandon, Viscount Brandon and Earl of Macclesfield, was the last Lord President; he was descended from the very ancient family of Geraldine, or Fitzgerald, in Ireland, he raised a regiment of foot, and a troop of horse, for Charles I. in the Civil War, and fought in many battles, with the ardour of a volunteer, displaying at the same time all the conduct of a veteran, He particularly signalized himself

himself in Wales, where he took the fortresses of Cardigan, Emblin, Langhorne, and Roche; as also the strong town of Haverfordwest, with the castles of Picton and Carew. He was one of the Lords who presented the Duke of York as a Popish recusant, at the King's Bench bar, in Westminster Hall.

In 1688, December 4th, the Lord Herbert of Cherbury, Sir Edward Hurley, and most of the Gentlemen of Worcestershire and Herefordshire, met at Worcester, and declared for the Prince of Orange: Ludlow Castle was taken for the Prince by Lord Herbert; and Sir Walter Blount, and the popish Sheriff of Worcester secured in it by that Peer.

The Court for the Government of Wales was dissolved by Act of Parliament in the year 1689.



East Gate of the Castle.



Descriptive Account **OF THE ANCIENT AND PRESENT STATE OF** **LUDLOW.**



THE liberties of the Borough of Ludlow extend on the east to the township of Rock, to the township of Overton on the south, to further Halton on the west, and to the township of Stanton Lacy on the north. The Town, like

H Shrewsbury,

Shrewsbury, is on a hill, with a declivity on every side. It is spacious and well built, having a cleanly and cheerful appearance; surrounded by a country, which in every direction, affords prospects highly beautiful.

Lloyd, in his "Breviarie of Britayne," describes this place, as the "fayre Towne and Castel of Ludlaw, vpon Themis in Schreupshyre, in olde time called Dinav." Formerly, this town was inclosed by a strong wall, about a mile in circumference, including the Castle: which, to use the words of Leland, "hemmeth in part of the town," and forming the most interesting object, first attracts attention.

The Castle rises from the point of a headland, and its foundations are ingrafted into a bare grey rock. The north front consists of square towers, with high connecting walls, which are embattled with deep interstices, and the old foss and part of the rock have been formed into walks, which in 1772 were planted with beeches, elms, and lime trees, at the expense of the late Countess of Powis. These trees having now grown to maturity, form a soothing and grateful shade, and add exceedingly to the beauty and dignity of the scene.

A bare and precipitate ridge runs parallel on the western side, and is beautifully crowned with wood, above a chasm through which the
broad

broad and shallow river Teme pursues its course. Having walked round the Castle, we enter the base court, containing several acres. The principal entrance is by a gateway under a low pointed arch, worked within a former one of larger dimensions. On the right hand, as we enter this gateway, are the ruins of barracks, in constant use when the Castle was the Palace of the Lords Presidents of Wales ; and further on is a square tower with its entrance from the wall ; the embattled rampart pierced with loops, remains here and there, in picturesque masses, on the left is a range of stone buildings said to have been the stables ; on which appear the arms of Queen Elizabeth ; with those of the Earl of Pembroke, who succeeded to the Presidency on the death of his relation, Sir Henry Sidney. Contiguous are the ruins of the court house, which had a door outwardly, and beyond it is a lofty tower, called Mortimer's Tower.

This tower has been denominated semilunar : the inner face of it is indeed flat, but its outward projection forms rather a half oval, than a semispherical figure. The lowest apartment has the appearance of having been a prison ; the original entrance being through a circular aperture in the ponderous key-stone of its vaulted roof.

The body of the Castle is on the north and
west

west sides of the inclosure, guarded by a deep and wide foss, cut in the rock. A stone bridge of two arches, on which are some remains of an embattled parapet, supplies the place of the ancient draw-bridge, and leads to the great entrance gate.

The portal is of modern erection, of no great strength or beauty, constructed during the Presidency of Sir Henry Sidney. The arch is mean and flat, and the adjacent building has wide square transom windows, and high pointed gables.

Over the portal is a niche with the following inscription, under the arms of England and France:—

ANNO DOMINI MILLESIMO QVINGENTESI-
MO OCTAGESIMO COMPLETO, ANNO REGNI
ILLVSTRISSIMÆ AC SERENISSIMÆ REGINÆ
ELIZABETHÆ VICESIMO TERTIO
CVRRENTE, 1581.

In a compartment below, with the armorial bearings of Queen Elizabeth and Sir Henry Sidney, is the following,—

HOMINIBVS INGRATIS LOQVIMINI LAPIDES.
ANNO REGNI REGINÆ ELIZABETHÆ 23.
THE 22 YEAR COPILET OF THE PRESIDENCY
OF SIR HENRI SIDNEY,
KNIGHT OF THE MOST NOBLE ORDER OF
THE GARTER, ETC. 1581.

For the querulous beginning of it the Sidney papers will readily account. Sir Henry had been nurtured in courts, and intrusted with the government of Ireland, in the rigid administration of which he found many successful enemies. He was therefore willing to retire to this place, and to superintend the education of his son, Sir Philip Sidney, the short lived Marcellus of the day.

The first view of the interior of the Castle is strikingly fine. The court is an irregular square area not very spacious, but the lofty embattled structures with which it is inclosed, though in ruin, still preserving their original outlines; the bold masses of light and shade produced by deep retiring breaks; the rich tints and stains of age; the luxurious mantling of ivy, and the sullen stillness that now reigns throughout these forlorn and deserted towers, once the scene of royal splendour and feudal revelry, present a spectacle of the fallen magnificence of past ages, rarely to be equalled. Adjoining the gate are various apartments belonging to the Porter, the Warder, and probably the lower retainers of the President: near the entrance are the remains of a beautiful doorway leading to a staircase, with a frieze of quaterfoils, charged with shields, and flanked with small ornamental buttresses.

The

The Keep is a vast square embattled tower of early Norman architecture, rising on the left side of the gate to the height of 110 feet, ivy-mantled to the top; divided into four stories. At each of the angles is a small square turret, rising the whole height; that on the north larger than the other. The ground floor is the dungeon, or prison, a gloomy and dreadful place of confinement, half under ground. The roof is arched, and 21 feet high. In the arch are three square openings communicating with the chamber above; these openings, besides supplying the means of letting down the prisoners, and inspecting them at pleasure from the governor's room above, are supposed to have been intended for raising supplies of ammunition, offensive implements, and provision during a siege. A strong arched doorway on the north side, evidently inserted a long time after the erection of the tower, has been intended for an entrance to this spacious vault. The ground floor measures 31 feet by 16. In the north-east turret a newel staircase winds to the top of the keep. On the second floor is a large room 30 feet by 18, with a fireplace; this communicates on the left with a square arched chamber, and on the right, with a narrow oblong room which has also a groined roof, having two deep recesses in the dividing wall. At the south-west angle of the larger
apart-

apartment is a lobby, formed of three groined round arches, which leads to a narrow passage, communicating outwardly with a walk, once probably a covered way, on the rampart, which conducts to a small but strong tower at a distance. Above these have been other chambers similarly disposed, to which there now remains neither floor nor roof. The original arches of the doors and windows of this tower, were all round and plain, the latter approaching outwardly to narrow loops; many have been enlarged, and altered to pointed arches externally, but mostly bear their original forms within. This master-tower measures 46 feet by 34; and the walls are from 9 to 12 feet thick. The ruins of the offices form a confused mass, extending a considerable way to the left, and into the court. A wide fire-place in the wall marks the place of the kitchen; and where the brewhouse is said to have been, is a deep well, nine feet in diameter, in clearing which, at the depth of 32 yards, a coat of fine pipe-clay was found on the walls. The oven is on the ground floor of a tower next to the outer wall, near which place the bakehouse has been situated, it is of large dimensions, measuring 15 feet in breadth, by 9 in depth.

The enlarged scale on which these household offices appear to have been constructed, calculated

lated to supply abundance, bordering on profusion; joined to the gloomy horrors of the dungeon, are strictly correspondent with Gothic imagery, as equally necessary to unbounded hospitality, as to barbarous punishment.

The hall faces the gate, and was approached originally by a flight of steps, now destroyed; under it is a low room, with five deep recesses in the south wall; the same is continued under the apartment on the left. The hall door is a beautiful pointed arch, of the style of Edward the first's reign, ornamented with delicate mouldings, and before it seems to have been a porch or lobby. The hall measures 60 feet by 30, the height about 35 feet. On the north side, looking to the country, are three lofty pointed windows, diminishing outwardly to narrow lunets with trefoil heads. On the opposite side, next the court, are two windows in the same style, but larger, and each divided by a single mullion. Between these is a chimney with an obtuse arch, of the æra of Elizabeth, inserted within a more lofty sharp pointed one, which, from its similitude to those adjoining, was, it is conceived, originally a third window, answering to the same number opposite; for there certainly were no fire-places in halls when this building was erected. There remains now neither roof nor floor; so totally dilapidated is the once

once elegant saloon, where the splendid scene of *Comus* was first exhibited, where chivalry exhausted her choicest stores, both of invention and wealth, and where hospitality and magnificence blazed for many ages in succession without diminution or decay. Two pointed arches lead to a spacious tower attached to the west end of the hall, in which are several apartments, one of which is still called Prince Arthur's room. The room on the first floor measures 37 feet by 33. At the north-west angle is a deeply recessed closet: all the floors are much decayed, or entirely gone. On the opposite end of the hall, with a pointed arched door of communication, is another large square tower of three stories, the principal apartment of which is pointed out as the banquetting room. A spacious chamber above, appears to have been more adorned than the rest; the chimney-piece has an unusual degree of rude magnificence; and the corbels of the ceiling are finely wrought into busts of men and women crowned. A door on the south side of the room on the ground floor, opens to a winding passage which ends in some small gloomy rooms, and on the left to two deep angular recesses terminated by narrow loops looking outward. Each of these towers has a newel staircase in an elegant octangular turret.

On



West Entrance of the Chapel.

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On the left hand is a circular building, with window and doorway of the early Norman period ; this is part of the Chapel, of which, the nave only is standing. There is a beautiful arch still remaining, but the choir with which it communicated is entirely destroyed ; this, as well as that of the western door, is a rich Saxon arch, covered with chevron, lozenge, and reticulated ornaments. The outside of the building is encircled by a band with a billeted ornament, and there are three windows, circularly arched, ornamented with chevron mouldings. In the interior, rising from the floor, are fourteen

fourteen recesses in the wall, formed by small pillars with indented capitals, supporting round arches which have alternately plain and zigzag mouldings. About three feet above this arcade are projecting corbels, carved as heads, capitals of pillars, &c. The whole length of the Chapel, extending to the eastern wall of the Castle, was, when entire, 70 feet, of which the choir was 42, and the nave 28.

Churchyard, the Poet, who died in 1570, had the pleasure of beholding the Castle and its Chapel in the perfection of their beauty, the latter of which he describes as,—

"So bravely wrought, so fayre and finely fram'd,  
That to world's end, the beantie may endure.  
About the same, are armes in colours sitch,  
As few can shewe, in any soyle or place:  
Which truly shewes, the armes, the blood and race  
Of sondrie kings, but cheefly noble men,  
That here in prose, I will set out with pen."

All that follow are the armes of Princes and Noblemen.

Sir Walter Lacie was the first owner of Ludloe Castle whose armes are there, and so follows the rest by order as you may rede.

Jeffrey Genyuile, did match with Lacie.

Roger Mortymer, the first Earle of Marchy, an Earle of a great house, matcht with Genyuile.

Leonell, Duke of Clarence, joined with Ulster in armes.

Edmond, Earle of Marchy, matcht with Clarence.

Richard, Earle of Cambridge, matcht with the Earle of Marchy.

Richard, Duke of Yorke, matcht with Westmerland,

Edward the fourth, matcht with Wodvile of Rivers.

Henry the seventh, matcht with Elizabeth right heire of England.

Henry the eight, matcht with the Marquese of Penbroke.

These are the greatest first to be named that are set out worthily as they were of dignity and birth.

Now follows the rest of those that were Lord Presidents, and others whose armes are in the same Chappell.

William Smith, Bishop of Lincolne, was the first Lord President of Wales, in Prince Arthur's daies.

Jeffrey Blythe, Bishop of Coventrie and Litchfield, Lord President.

Rowland Lee, Bishop of Coventrie and Litchfield, Lord President.

John Harman, Bishop of Exeter, Lord President.

Richard Sampson, Bishop of Litchfield and Coventrie, Lord President.

John Dudley, Earle of Warwick, (after Duke of Northumberland)  
Lord President.

Sir William Harbert, (after Earle of Penbroke) Lord President.

Nicholas Heath, Bishop of Worcester, Lord President.

Sir William Harbert, once againe Lord President.

Gilbert Bourne, Bishop of Bath and Welles, Lord President.

Lord Williams of Tame, Lord President.

Sir Harry Sidney, Lord President.

Sir Andrew Corbret, knight, Vicepresident.

There are two blanks left without armes.

Sir Thomas Dinham, knight, is mentioned there to doe some  
great good act.

John Scory, Bishop of Hartford.

Nicholas Bullingham, Bishop of Worcester.

Nicholas Robinson, Bishop of Bangore.

Richard Davies, Bishop of Saint Davies.

Thomas Davies, Bishop of Saint Asaph.

Sir James Crofts, knight, controller.

Sir John Throgmorton, knight, Justice of Chester and the three  
shieres of Eastwales.

Sir Hugh Cholmley, knight.

Sir Nicholas Arnold, knight.

Sir George Bromley, knight, and Justice of the three shieres in  
Wales.

William Gerrard, Lord Chancellor of Ireland, and Justice of  
the three shieres in Southwales.

Charles Fox, esquier and secretorie.

Ellice Price, Doctor of the Lawe.

Edward Leighton, esquier.

Richard Seborne, esquier.

Richard Pates, esquier.

Rafe Barton, esquier.

George Phetyplace, esquier.

William Leighton, esquier.

Myles Sands, esquier.

The armes of all these afore spoken of are gallantly and cunning-  
ly set out in the chappell.

From an inventory of the goods found in  
Ludlow Castle, bearing date 1708, the eleventh  
year of the reign of Queen Anne, we learn that  
about forty rooms were found entire at that pe-  
riod. Among these were the hall, council  
chamber, Lord President's, and my Lady's  
withdrawing rooms ; the Steward's room, great  
dining room, chief Justice's room, second  
Judge's



Judge's room, Prince Arthur's room, Captain's apartments, &c. also the kitchen, brewhouse, &c. and as in this inventory a table and altar are stated to have been found in the Chapel, we may presume the choir was at that time remaining.

The progressive stages of ruin to which this noble edifice was doomed to fall, may be distinguished in the accounts of travellers who visited it at various periods. In the account prefixed to Buck's *Antiquities*, published in 1774, it is observed, that many of the royal apartments were entire, and the sword of state, with the velvet hangings were preserved. An extract from a tour through Great Britain, quoted by Grose, as a just and accurate account of the Castle, represents the Chapel as having abundance of coats of arms upon the pannels, and the hall as decorated with the same kind of ornaments, together with lances, spears, firelocks and old armour. Dr. Todd, in his learned edition of *Comus*, says, a gentleman who visited the Castle in 1768 has acquainted me that the floor of the great council chamber was then pretty entire, as was the staircase. The covered steps leading to the Chapel were remaining, but the covering of the Chapel was fallen; yet the arms of some of the Lords Presidents were visible. In the great council chamber was  
inscribed

inscribed on the wall a sentence from 1 Samuel, Chapter 12, Verse 3; all which are now wholly gone.

Soon after the accession of George I. an order is said to have come down for unroofing the buildings, and stripping them of their lead. Decay, of course, soon ensued. Many of the pannels, bearing the arms of the Lords Presidents, were converted into wainscoting for a public house in the Town, a former owner of which enriched himself by the sale of materials clandestinely taken away. There remains, also, a richly embroidered carpet hung up in the chancel of St. Lawrence's church, said to be part of the covering of the council board.

The Earl of Powis, who previously held the Castle in virtue of a long lease, acquired the reversion in fee, by purchase from the crown, in the year 1811.

From the time that some fixed mode of building was established, it is not difficult to ascertain the periodical changes which have succeeded, yet there may well be supposed intermediate times wherein the former mode is found more or less mixed with that which has not become exclusively adopted. Writers learned in these studies, have, with great labour of research, endeavoured to collect from accounts darkly traced by the historian and the antiquary, the periods

periods in which the various modes of architecture found in ancient buildings, have succeeded each other: these have been arranged under four general heads or periods.

In the **FIRST PERIOD**, early Norman architecture flourished till 1100, up to the time of Henry I. The keep of this Castle is to be referred to this period, having the general characteristics of the buildings erected by the first Norman Barons, towering height, massive strength, embattled turrets, &c. The round tower of the Chapel, is classed with the four specimens of this mode, found at the Temple Church, London; St. Sepulchre's, Cambridge; and the round churches of Northampton, and Mapleston. Sacred edifices of this description which are apparently copied from the church of the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem, are said to have been first erected in England about the time of the first Crusade, soon after the millenary year of the christian æra, and must of course be referred to the first period.

The **SECOND PERIOD**, commencing with Henry I. in 1100, is extended to the time of Henry III. 1250.

The **THIRD PERIOD**, includes part of Henry III. with the three first Edwards, to Henry IV. from 1250 to 1400. The whole range of buildings on the north side of the court, consisting  
of

of two great square towers, connected by a curtain, in which are the hall and rooms of state, are attributed to the middle of this period; having sharp pointed arches, delicate ribbed mouldings, &c. The offices and ramparts were also erected in this period.

In the **FOURTH PERIOD** from 1400 to 1600, will be included the modern additions and repairs: of these, some chimney pieces and arches, with several windows in the keep, and a flat arched door within a square inserted in it, as a new and more airy entrance to the dungeon, may be referred to the fifteenth century. The ornamented remains of a small door to a staircase in the interior gatehouse, may be assigned to the time of Prince Arthur's residence, and the gate with it's adjoining rooms, are of Queen Elizabeth's reign, as are also the stables in the exterior court.

The Castle, in the approach to it from different parts of Whitecliff hill, has a grand and imposing aspect; it is also seen to advantage from the road to Oakley Park; from various other positions the effect is truly grand, and in some points of view the towers are richly clustered, with the largest in the centre.

The opening toward the north displays the windings of the Teme, with the mansion of Oakley Park, half hid by trees; and is terminated

nated with a bold outline, formed by the Clee Hills, Caer Caradoc, and other hills near Stretton. The more confined view towards the west exhibits a bold eminence, partly clothed with wood, the rocks of Whitecliff with the rapid stream at their base, and in short a full union of those features in rural scenery which constitutes the picturesque. The loveliness of nature is heightened by contrast with the venerable grey towers of the Castle, and the effect of the whole is calculated at once to awaken the enthusiasm of fancy, and to diffuse the calm of contemplation.

Inspired by a survey of these interesting objects, various poetical effusions have appeared; among which the following is of a superior character.

### ODE TO LUDLOW CASTLE.

"Proud pile that rear'st thy hoary head,  
In ruin vast, in silence dread,  
O'er Teme's luxuriant vale,  
Thy moss-grown halls, thy precincts drear,  
To musing Fancy's pensive ear,  
Unfold a varied tale.

When terror stalk'd the prostrate land  
With savage Cambria's ruthless band,  
Beneath thy frowning shade.  
Mixed with the grazers of the plain;  
The plundered, helpless peasant train,  
In sacred ward were laid.

From yon high tower the archer drew  
With steady hand the stubborn yew,  
While, fierce in martial state,  
The mailed host in long array,  
With crested helmets and banners gay,  
Burst from the thundering gate.

In happier times, how brightly blazed  
 The hearth with ponderous billets raised,  
 How rung the vaulted halls,  
 When smok'd the feast, when care was drown'd,  
 When songs and social glee went round,  
 Where now the ivy crawls.

'Tis past! the Marcher's princely court,  
 The strength of war, the gay resort,  
 Is mould'ring silence sleeps;  
 And o'er the solitary scene,  
 While nature hangs her garlands green,  
 Neglected Memory weeps.

The muse too weeps: in hallowed hour  
 Here sacred Milton own'd her power,  
 And woke to nobler song;  
 The wizard's baffled wiles essay'd,  
 Here first the pure angelic maid  
 Subdued th'enraptured throng.

But see! beneath yon shattered roof  
 What mouldy cavern, sun-beam proof,  
 With mouth infectious yawns!  
 O! sight of dread! O! ruthless doom!  
 On that deep dungeon's solid gloom  
 Nor hope nor day-light dawns.

Yet there at midnight's sleepless hour,  
 While boisterous revels shook the tower,  
 Bedew'd with damps, forlorn,  
 The warrior captive pressed the stones,  
 And lonely breathed unheeded moans,  
 Despairing of the morn.

That too is past; unsparing Time,  
 Stern miner of the tower sublime,  
 It's night of ages broke,  
 Freedom and peace with radiant smile  
 Now carol o'er the dungeon vile  
 That cumb'rous ruins choke.

Proud relic of the mighty dead!  
 Be mine with shuddering awe to tread  
 Thy roofless, weedy hall,  
 And mark with fancy's kindling eye,  
 The steel-clad ages gliding by  
 Thy feudal pomp recall.

Peace to thy stern heroic age!  
 Nor stroke of wild unhallowed rage  
 Assault thy tottering form!  
 We love, when smiles returning day,  
 In cloudy distance to survey  
 The remnant of the storm."

From the "Athenaeum," Vol. 2.



North View of the Church.

**BEGINNING** our perambulation of the town from the north front of the Castle, we pass on eastward in a line with the town wall, which remains here, nearly entire, serving as a foundation for garden walls, continued almost to the Church. Not far from the north-east corner of the Castle, tradition says there has formerly been a Priory, and some writers describe vestiges of the chapel belonging to it; but these accounts are doubtful.

We enter the Church-yard, where the gate called Linney gate formerly stood. This name it either receives from, or gives to, the lane into which it opens; which lane leads circuitously into the lower part of Corve Street.

A literary gentleman of Ludlow is of opinion that the name Linney has arose from this lane having been the way to the chapel of Saint Leonard, deriving the term etymologically, Leonard, Lenney, Linney: but it is altogether as probable that the name has been given in the British æra of Ludlow, from Llan-llheney, the place, or receptacle of monks, or learned men.

The Church of Ludlow stands in the highest part of the town, and is a stately and very spacious structure, in the form of a cross, with a lofty and well-adorned tower in the centre, in which is a melodious peal of eight bells. The principal entrance from the town is by a large hexagonal porch. The nave is divided from the aisles by six lofty pointed arches on each side, springing from light clustered pillars, each consisting of four taper shafts, with the intermediate spaces hollowed. Above them is a clerestory, with a range of heavy unpleasing windows. The great western window is entirely modernised and its richly ornamented mullions destroyed. The four great arches under the tower are remarkably bold: beneath the eastern arch is the choral rood loft, the lower part of which is embellished with open carved work, but upon it has been erected a modern gallery. Above which stands a large and very fine-toned organ,  
given



given by Henry Arthur Earl of Powis, in the year 1764; it cost £1000. A set of Chimes was put up at the expense of the Parish, in the year 1795, to play seven tunes for the respective days of the week, namely, 104th. Psalm; Conquering Hero; Highland Laddie; Innocence; Rule Britannia; Life let us cherish; Britons strike home.

The choir is spacious, and lighted by five lofty pointed windows on each side, and one of much larger dimensions at the east end, which occupies the whole breadth, and nearly the whole height of this part of the building. This great window is entirely filled with painted glass, though not of rich colouring, representing chiefly the legend of St. Lawrence, the patron saint of the Church. In the side windows, are also large remains of stained glass, principally figures of Saints, of richer colouring than those of the eastern window. The oak stalls are still perfect, but injudiciously *daubed* over with paint.

On each side of the choir is a chantry chapel, and at the north transept is a square building called fletcher's chancel, on the top of which is an arrow. It is a probable conjecture, that this erection has been for the use of a company of arrow-makers or fletchers, (as they were anciently denominated) who are supposed to have held

held their meetings here, and to have kept their books and records in the recess at the north-east corner of the building.

In the windows of the north chancel (called St. John's chapel) are paintings representing the history of the Apostles, and also very splendid remnants of stained glass portraying the story of the ring presented by some Pilgrims to Edward the Confessor, who as the Chronicles relate, "was warned of his death certain dayes before hee dyed, by a ring that was brought to him by certain Pilgrimes comming from Hierusalem, which ring hee hadde secretly given to a poore man that asked his charitie in the name of God and sainte John the Evangelist." These Pilgrims, as the legend recites, were men of Ludlow.

The whole of this noble parish Church is ceiled with fine oak, and embellished with carving. The extreme length from east to west is 203 feet, of which the nave is 93, the space under the tower 30, and the choir 80. The breadth of the nave and aisles is 32 feet; the transept measures 130 feet; and the breadth of the choir is 22 feet. The Tower rises 131 feet, and forming a prominent object, gives considerable beauty to many prospects from the neighbouring country. It is quadrangular, and the upper part near the battlements was originally adorned

adorned with highly finished statues of saints, &c. These were deemed by Oliver Cromwell's officers, when they were possessed of this town, superfluous and irreligious, and were accordingly either much mutilated or entirely destroyed. Numerous similar works in various parts of the Church suffered the same fate.

Leland and other old authors notice this church, as being superior to any in this part of the country; it is indeed of contemporary erection. The pure architecture of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, and practised by the immortal Wykeham, in the nave of Winchester, and at New College, Oxford.

It will grieve the lover of elaborate monumental sculpture, so prevalent in the last century but one, to see the mutilation which the highly finished effigies in white marble, of Judge Bridgeman and his lady, have undergone. These recumbent figures are in a style of execution superior to that of Nicholas Stone, who does not particularize this work in his catalogue preserved by Vertue, and given by Mr. Walpole. From the very minute resemblance to portraits by Vandyke, it may be presumed that they were finished, as those mentioned in the Cathedral at Gloucester, by the ingenious Francisco Fanelli, who was much employed

ployed in England during the reign of Charles I.

The spirit of the ancient religion particularly enjoined the practice of "Almose dedes," and sanctified the memory of the dead who had distinguished themselves as the benefactors of mankind and friends of the poor: hence we yet find in most of the ancient churches, carefully-preserved records of the charitable donations of opulent individuals, who hoped so to raise for themselves a lasting monument in the gratitude of posterity. Many of these records are to be seen here, but many of the more ancient and important are now destroyed, and which through inattention would be totally forgotten, were it not that we find in ancient authors notices of their former existence.

Leland says "I noted these graves of men of fame in Ludlow Church. Beauvie, or Beaufrie, sometime Cofferer to king Edward the fourth. Cokkis, a gentleman servitor to Prince Arthur. Dr. Denton, Master of St. John's, in Ludlow. Suliard, Justice of the Marches of Wales. Hoyer, a Merchant:" and Churchyard speaks of "Ludloe" as—

"a towne of noble fame,  
Where monuments are found in auncient guise;  
Where kings and queens, in pompe did long abyde,  
And where God pleade that good Prince Arthur dyde."

He also briefly particularises the memorial inscriptions in the Church, in the following lines;—

\*Within the quere, there is a Ladie layd  
In tomb most rich, the top of faire touchstone:  
There was bestow'd in honour of this mayd,  
Great cost and charge, the trueth may well be knowne.  
For as the tomb is built in sumptuous guise,  
So to the same, a closet fayre is wrought,  
Where lords may sit in stately solemne wise,  
As though it were a fine device of thought  
To beautifie both tombe and every part  
Of that fayre worke, that there is made by arte.

Against that tombe, full on the other side,  
A knight doth lye, that justice Townshend hight:  
His wife likewise, so soone as that she dyed,  
In this rich tombe, was buried by this knight:  
And trueth to tell, Dame Alice was her name,  
An heire indeede, that brought both wealth and land,  
And as world sayth, a worthie vertuous dame,  
Whose auncient armes, in colours there doth stand:  
And many more, whose armes I do not knowe  
Unto this knight are joined all a rowe.

Amid the church, a chauntrie chappel stands,  
Where Hoxier lyes, a man that did much good:  
Bestow'd great wealth, and gave thereto some lands,  
And helpt poore soules that in necessitie stood.  
As many men, are bent to win good will  
By some good turne that they may freely shewe:  
So Hoxier's hands and head were working still,  
For those he did, in det or daunger knowe.  
He smil'd to see, a beggar at his deore:  
For all his joye was to releve the poore.

Another man whose name was Cookes for troth,  
Like Hoxier was, in all good gifts of Grace.  
This Cookes did give, great lands and livings both;  
For to maintaine a chauntrie in that place.  
A yeerely dole, and monthly almes likewise  
He ordain'd there, which now the poore do mis:  
His wife and he, within that chappel lye,  
Where yet full plaine, the chauntrie standing is:  
Some other things of note there may you see  
Within that Church, not touched now by mee.

Yet Bewpy must be nam'd, good reason why,  
For he bestowed great charge before he dyde,  
To helpe poore men, and now his bones do lie  
Full nere the font, upon the foremost side.  
Thus in those daies, the poore were lookt unto,  
The rich were glad to fling their wealth away:  
So that their almes, the poore some good might do.  
In poore men's box who doth his treasure lay,  
Shall find again, ten fold for one he leaves:  
Or else my hope and knowledge mee deceives."

Among the monumental inscriptions are the following;—

Here lyethe the bodye of Ambrosia Sydney iijth daughter of the Right Honourable Syr Henrye Sydney, Knight of the moste noble order of the Garter, Lorde President of the Counsell of Wales &c: And of the Ladye Marye his wyfe, daughter to the famous Duke of Northumberland who dyed in Ludlowe Castell ye 22nd of Februarie 1574.

Here lieth the bodyes of Syr Robert Townesbend, Knyght, Chief Justice of the Counsell in the Marches of Wales and Chester; and Dame Alice his wyfe, Daughter and one of the heyres of Robert Porye, Esquire, whose had betwene them twoo, XII chylidren, VI sonnes and VI daughters lawfully begot.

Here lye the bodies of Edmwnd Walter, Esquier, chiefe Iustice of three shires in South Wales, and one of His Majestie's Councell in the Marches of Wales; and of Mary his wife, daughter of Thomas Hacklitt, of Eytou, Esquier, who had issue three sonnes, named James, John, and Edward, and two daughters, named Mary and Dorothy. He was buried the 29 day of Ianuarie, Anno Dni. 1592.

Here lyeth expectinge a ioyfull Resurrection, the body of Dame Mary Evre, late wife to Right Hon. Raiphe Lord Evre, Baron of Malton, Lord President of the Principalltie and Marches of Wales, and Leivetenant of the same, and Daughter of Sr. John Dawney, of Selsey, in the County of Yorke, Knight. She departed this mortall lyfe the 19th day of March, Anno Domini 1612, ætatis svæ 55.

In Memory of Theophilus Salwey, Esq. who was the eldest son of Edward Salwey, Esq. a younger son of Major Richard Salwey, who in the last century sacrific'd all and every thing in his power in support of Public Liberty, and in opposition to Arbitrary Power. The said Theophilus Salwey married mary the Daughter and Heiress of Robert Dennet, of Walthamstow in the County of Essex, Esq. but left no issue by her. Obiit the 26th of April, 1766, ætat 61.

Pro Rege scepe: pro Republica semper.

Sacrum Memoriae Dni Johannis Brydgeman, Militis, Servientis ad legem et capitalis Justiciarii, Cestrie. Qui Maximo omnium Bonorum Maxore, (cum 76 annos vixisset) 5th Febr. anno 1696. Pie Placideq animam deo reddidit.

Finaciæ Vxor martialisma posuit.

The head of Sir John Bridgeman's tomb was opened in 1805, (on sinking a grave for the body of Mrs. Turner) when the hair of both Sir John and his Lady was found perfectly entire; the coffins mouldered on exposure to the air.

O Quisquis Ades !  
 Reverere manes Inclytos  
 Edwardi Vavghan, e Trawscoed Arm.  
 Johannis Vavghan, Equitis Herois,  
 Hæredis ex Traduce,  
 Proin patris magni ad instar,  
 Per omnigenæ literaturæ, sive academicæ, sive forensis.  
 Spatia  
 Huc acerrime vel a puero contendit;  
 Vt principi et patriæ  
 Egrægie inserviret;  
 Quod feliciter assecutus est,  
 Vtriq; gratus et amabilis,  
 Et spectatissimus civis  
 In ipsa temporum  
 Virtutine;  
 Vt scias hic condi quem antiqui dixere  
 Virum cubicum  
 Et divinum.  
 Talis tantusq; sentibus etiam inimicis,  
 Commorientibus pœne amicis  
 Ipse solo læto et lubente,  
 Receptus est  
 In Beatorum patriam.  
 Anno { Dni MDCLXXXIV.  
 { Etatis suæ 48.  
 Conjugi parentiq; desideratissimo  
 Vidua cum liberis,  
 Perpetim lugens  
 Hoc mortale monumentum  
 P  
 Ipse sibi immortalæ epitaphium.

The time of the building of this Church is not recorded, but from an attentive survey of its architecture it is supposed to have been early in the sixteenth century; and writers living in that, or the following age, speak of it as newly brought to a state of perfection by the society who raised and supported it. "This Church," (says Leland) "has been much advanced by a Brotherhood *therein founded* in the name of St. John the Evangelist, the original whereof was (as the people say there) in the time of Edward the Confessor,

fessor, and it is constantly affirmed there, that the Pilgrims that brought the ring from St. John the Evangelist to King Edward, were the inhabitants of Ludlow." If we give to this author all the credit which his writings have generally been allowed to merit, we must believe, that some time at least, previous to the fourth Edward, a sacred edifice stood here of sufficient importance to be the depository of the mouldering remains of the great; as appears from Leland's account of the monuments of "men of fame," to be seen here in his time, particularly that of Edward's Cofferer of the Household; an Officer formerly of the first importance.

We are sanctioned therefore in the presumption, that the present fabric has, from an older foundation, been gradually advanced to perfection by the ancient fraternity of Palmers, who have always been found attached to it, as far as the history of either can be distinctly traced: the remnants of painted glass, in the eastern window, of the north chancel, distinguished from the other paintings by richer colouring and superior execution, seems to favour this opinion.

This Church, though it never was, strictly speaking, collegiate, possessed a chantry of ten Priests, supported by the Palmers, which gave to its choral service the splendour of a Cathedral.

The



The outward circumference of the Church is 323 yards, and that of the Church-yard 327.

In the King's books, the living of Ludlow is valued at £19 12s. 6d. And this estimate being under £20 it is consequently at the disposal of the Lord Chancellor. It is a Rectory, and its present value is said to be £200 per annum. There is a Reader and Lecturer, whose salaries are paid partly by the Corporation and partly by the Parish. It is in the Bishoprick of Hereford, and Ludlow is the capital of this division of the Diocese.

The Visitations, or Ecclesiastical Courts, are held twice a year, generally in May and October, for proving wills, granting letters of administration, &c. The Proctors reside at Hereford. Four Apparitors officiate, who reside at Ludlow.

Only part of the pews in the Church are the hereditary property of the parishioners, these are transferable, either during a residence in the parish, or for one or more lives. Those denominated freehold are saleable at any time, a proper entry being made in the parish book. The sale of vacant, or forfeited pews, amount to a general average of £60 yearly.

Near the Church-yard is

THE

### THE ALMSHOUSE.

It is a neat and handsome structure, containing thirty-three very comfortable apartments. It was founded by Mr. John Hosyer, a Merchant, in the year 1486, but being much damaged during so long a period of time, was rebuilt in the year 1758, at the expense of the Corporation.

This Almshouse, originally erected and endowed by Mr. Hosyer, seems to have been, by him devised, to the ancient fraternity of the Palmers, with property for its support. It is described in the Particular of the Guild Estate, as "an Almshouse to the Guild appertaining, with 33 chambers therein, inhabited by poor people, according to the foundation and ordinance of Mr. John Hosyer, to every of which poor people, is weekly allowed 4d. according to the same ordinance;" but nothing further is discoverable respecting its origin or its founder. The present substantial erection cost £1211 18s. 2½d. and is kept in very good repair, at the average charge of £10 a year. A new iron railing has lately been put up in front, which cost £70.

Over the door, and under the arms of the town, is the following inscription.



Domum hanc Eleemosynarium  
 Munificentia Johannis Hosyer, Mercatoris,  
 Anno salutis MCCCCLXXXVI, primitus extractam.  
 Temporis injuria labefactam diu et ruituram,  
 Ia Dei optimi Maximi gloriam, pii fundatoris  
 Memoriam et comodiorem  
 Pauperum receptionem; ab ipsis usque  
 Fundamentis propriis sumptibus,  
 Resuscitarunt, Ampliarunt, Ornarunt.  
 Ballivi, Burgenses, et Communitas  
 Villae hujus de Ludlow,  
 Anno Domini, MDCLVIII.  
 Augustissimi Regis Georgii secundi  
 Tricesimo primo.

The weekly allowance of fourpence to each of the inmates was deemed liberal at the period of its commencement; but the gradual alteration in the value of property and the necessities of life, has induced the Corporation to make a voluntary advancement of the sum allowed, which is now two shillings and sixpence weekly to each. Adjoining this building is

### THE COLLEGE.

The old Mansion House of the fraternity of the

the Palmers, now divided into several tenements and let out on a lease. The extensive possessions formerly belonging to this association, forms not only the ground-work and permanent support of the most important charities established in Ludlow, but from this original also, first arose the surplus property of the Corporation. The arduous struggle between Priestly and Kingly domination, ending at last in the subversion of the former by that unconscientious monarch Henry VIII, the property of the church, and even of private religious associations, were left entirely exposed to his rapacity. Under these circumstances of apprehended danger, the Palmer's Guild agreed to surrender their property to the King, on a promised condition, that the property so surrendered should be returned to the town of Ludlow, to support its old religious and charitable establishments, sanctioned by the crown: though this purpose was not effected during Henry's reign, yet in the beginning of that of his successor, the society was dissolved, and the property given up. Upon which the king is said to have been induced, "by the supplications of the Bailiffs, Burgesses, and Commonalty," to return the surrendered property, with an injunction that it should in part be applied to support the old religious and charitable establishments. Hence in 1552, "King Edward

Edward VI. granted to the Bailiffs, Burgesses, and Commonalty of Ludlow, the College House, belonging originally to the Palmer's Guild of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with all the lands, messuages, &c. belonging to the said Guild." Part of the issues and profits of the said premises to be appropriated to the purpose of supporting the Grammar School of Ludlow; to be kept by one Master and one Usher: and also out of the profits of the said premises, to be supported, thirty-three poor indigent persons of Ludlow, giving to each of them four-pence a week, and one chamber for each to live in. It was ordered also that one discreet, able and fit person, learned in holy writ, a man famous for innocence and integrity of life, should be, and be called, the Preacher; and also another able and fit person be, and be called, Assistant to the Rector of Ludlow. The salaries of both to be paid out of the issues of the said premises. The Bailiffs, Burgesses, &c. of Ludlow, at their own proper cost to support the above-named charitable and pious institutions, and also pay to the king eight pounds thirteen shillings and four-pence yearly.

PREACHER AND ASSISTANT.

The Preacher is now called the Lecturer, appointed by the Corporation, and receives yearly, £26 13s. 4d. with a house which is let for

£20 a year, his duty consists in preaching a sermon every sunday evening. The Lecturer also receives £4 8s. annually out of Mr. Walter's Charity. The Assistant to the Rector, now called the Reader, receives from the Corporation £85 a year, and has a house which lets for £15, making the whole income £100 a year. The duties of his office are to read prayers twice on sundays and once on other days.

#### THE ORGANIST

of the Church formerly received £4, and is now paid 30 guineas a year; out of which the Blower has 30 shillings. The Warden of the Guild had formerly £2 6s. 8d. The Collector of the rents £5, and the Auditor £2 13s. 4d. The Warden is now called the Chamberlain and has £10 a year, the Collector has £40, and the expense of an Audit is £3 17s. 6d.

The other Charities, which contribute to the support of the poor people in the Almshouse, &c. are the following:—

#### WALTER'S CHARITY.

James Walter, Esq. left by will dated 26th. February, 1624, 10*l.* to be paid annually to the poor in the Almshouse, and 10*l.* to be bestowed yearly on the Parson and Preacher, towards their maintenance.

#### TOMLYNE'S CHARITY.

The yearly amount of this donation made in  
1652,

1652, is stated to have been £33. 6s. 8d. described as one rent, and designed for the benefit and relief of the poor of the town of Ludlow; but no account can be found of the application of this money till the year 1716, in which year there is an entry in the Corporation ledger, of the date of February 23, by which it is ordered that £20 per annum should be secured to the trustees of the charity school, out of the tolls of the market; and it is declared, that the said 20*l.* together with the sum of 18*l.* 12*s.* lately appropriated, and then paid by the Town-renter for the use of the Almshouse, was in full satisfaction of Mr. Tomlyne's Charity. 20*l.* per annum has since continued to be paid to the charity school, or to the national school, with which it is combined. The remaining 13*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* is considered as forming part of the weekly payments to the Alms-people.

CANDLAND'S CHARITY.

Thomas Candland, by will dated 15th. April 1617, left 20*s.* to be paid annually to the poor of the Almshouse, or the poor of Ludlow, as the Bailiffs for the time being may see cause: this money is regularly paid, by the proprietor of Candland's house in Draper's Row, at the head of Pepper Lane. It is received by the Usher Beadle and distributed among the thirty-three residents in Hoyer's Almshouse.

ARCHER'S

## ARCHER'S CHARITY

is also 20s. annually, which is received on Good Friday from the proprietor of Sutton's Close, in the parish of St. Lawrence, and distributed in the same manner as the last-mentioned charity.

## SUSAN GAY'S CHARITY.

This contribution amounts to 6*l.* annually received from the Old Bank, and is given to the inmates of Hosyer's, and the Corve Street Alms-houses. This annuity is commonly called Plumer's Money.

## MORGAN LLOYD'S MONEY.

This charity amounting to 13s. 4d. is annually received at Dinham House and divided among the inmates of Hosyer's foundation.

## MARY BEETENSON'S CHARITY

is an annuity of 2*l.* 13s. 8d. half-yearly, divided among the thirty-three Alms-people.

## ANN SMITH'S CHARITY

amounts annually to 2*l.* 10s. 8d. paid by the Usher Beadle to the poor in shares.

## SUSANNAH SMITH'S CHARITY

of 100*l.* is invested in Navy 5 per cents, and the interest given half-yearly to the Alms-people.

These small payments amount annually to 12s. 5½d. for each of the Alms-people; and added to the weekly pay of 2s. 6d. from the Corporation, makes the yearly income of each amount to 7*l.* 2s. 5½d.



Various other charitable donations and bequests, some of which are inscribed on boards in the Church, are included in the following.

LANE'S CHARITY.

Thomas Lane by a codicil to his will, 19th. of June 1676, bequeathed closes of meadow and pasture land, lying near the east side of Broad Street, contiguous to Frog Lane, to be conveyed to feoffees and their heirs, in trust, the rents to be weekly disposed of to 12 poor widows, in bread or money. The land is estimated in the deed, at 3 acres and a half, but at present measures only 1 acre 3 roods 34 perches, which variation cannot be accounted for. It is let in three divisions, to Mr. E. Smith one at 14*l.*, one to Mr. T. Smith at 6*l.* and one to Mr. T. Cook at 3*l.* 10*s.* all for terms of 21 years, from 2nd. of February 1811, producing together 23*l.* 10*s.* per annum; which is applied in the distribution of 12 ninepenny loaves, every Monday morning to 12 poor widows and others appointed by the Bailiffs for life. No appointment of trustees has taken place since 1745. The charity is therefore, in the management of the Corporation.

PHILLIPS' CHARITY.

Evan Phillips left money amounting to 32*l.* or 34*l.* to purchase property, to supply an income for charitable distribution to 12 poor decayed

cayed old men or women of the town of Ludlow, with this money land was purchased, formerly called Green Linney, now known by the name of the Poor's Close, rented by Mr. W. Russell at 12*l.* a year, which supplies the means of the distribution made under the denomination of "Phillips' Charity."

#### ALDERMAN DAVIES' CHARITY.

Alderman Richard Davies by his will, August 20, 1689, left 100*l.* to purchase lands, the income of which should be given to eight poor widows. What is become of this land, is not known; but the Corporation make an annual payment of 6*l.* to eight poor widows, which is called "Alderman Davies' Charity;" the widows are appointed by the Bailiffs, and continue to receive this donation during their lives.

#### MRS. HANDFORD'S CHARITY.

Mrs. Eleanor Handford left 25*l.* the interest to be given to the poor of Castle Street ward. The Bailiffs distribute this interest money in half crowns on Good Friday annually.

#### LONG'S CHARITY.

is the interest of 20*l.* given annually, in shillings, to twenty selected poor persons, of the parish of St. Lawrence.

#### MRS. ROBINSON'S CHARITY.

Mrs. Robinson, the Bishop of London's Lady, as she is called in the charity book, bequeathed  
100*l.*

100*l.* to the poor of Ludlow, the interest to be applied as follows; viz. 50*s.* to the charity school, and 50*s.* to twenty poor housekeepers, to be named by the Bailiffs and Rector, on St. John the Evangelist's day. Of this money no other account is found than this—that the 100*l.* was applied towards discharging a debt belonging to the Corporation, and a bond given for it. 2*l.* 10*s.* the half of the interest is yearly distributed by the Bailiffs in half crowns, to twenty poor persons. The other half is supposed to have been given to the charity school.

MEYRICKE'S CHARITY, AND SIR TIMOTHY  
TOURNEUR'S CHARITY.

Thomas Meyricke, alderman of Ludlow, by his will, 18th. April, 1724, bequeathed to the Bailiffs, Burgesses and Commonalty, 40*l.* in trust, to be lent from time to time to four poor tradesmen, not being ale-sellers, for three years, without interest, in sums of 10*l.* each, the Corporation taking proper security.

Sir Timothy Tourneur, Knight, his Majesty's sergeant at Law, by a testamentary paper, reciting, that by God's Providence, Ludlow had been to him a special place of his practice and thriving in the world, he did upon that consideration bequeath 100*l.* to be lent to four young tradesmen, from three years to three years, in equal shares on sufficient security.

These

These benefactions are now united, and lent to four poor tradesmen in shares of £35 each.

Thomas Meyricke also bequeathed to the Bailiffs, Burgesses and Commonalty, £40, to be by them secured, to pay the charity schools in Ludlow, 40s. a year. These bequests of Meyricke and Tourneur, the evidence of which is contained in copies of the extracts entered in the old charity books, complete the list of existing charities under the management of the Corporation.

#### GWILLIAMS' CHARITY.

Richard Gwilliams, by his will, 1st October, 1629, gave to the Parson of Ludlow, the Vicar of Leominster, and the Vicar of King's Capel, each £3 a year to be issuing out of all his messuages, lands, &c. in Herefordshire, to the intent that they should distribute 20s. thereof yearly to poor impotent persons of each of those places. The money for each of the above-mentioned places, is regularly received and distributed, but it does not appear that a proper investment was made according to the directions in the will of the founder.

#### DR. SONNIBANK'S CHARITY.

Charles Sonnibank, D. D. by deed dated October 1635, bequeathed a reserve rent, out of Land at Hopesay, of £13 6s. 8d. granted to trustees in trust, to be given to ten  
poor

poor widows of Ludlow, to be paid quarterly, at the Parsonage house in Ludlow, the Parson to retain 6s. 8d. for his care in receiving it. This money is received and distributed as directed; by the Rector, or the Clerk as his agent.

#### HORNE'S BENEFACTION.

In 1640, Robert Horne gave by will to the Rector of the parish Church of St. Lawrence, for the time being, for ever, a rent charge of £10 per annum. This sum is received and paid as appointed. The Deeds are not in the hands of the Rector.

#### MRS. HIGGINSON'S CHARITY.

Mrs. Jane Higginson of Doddington, in the parish of Whitchurch, by her will dated March 15th, 1708, gave £5 per annum to five decayed tradesmen's widows, for keeping clean the chancel of the Church; and she also gave to the Rector of Ludlow £5 a year. These donations are regularly paid.

#### MORGAN'S CHARITY.

It is recorded on a tablet in the Church of St. Lawrence, bearing date 10th July, 1766, that the Rev. Richard Morgan, rector of Clun-gunford, left to the Rector, Lecturer and Reader of this parish, for the time being, the sum of £140 in trust, to pay for the schooling of poor children.

The

The present fund derived from this bequest is 120*l*. 3 per cent consols. How it came to be reduced to that sum is not discoverable. The dividends are now paid as a contribution to the national school.

#### BLUE COAT CHARITY SCHOOL.

There was an ancient charity school in Ludlow, called the blue coat school, which has formed the basis of a national school. It has been stated that 20*l*. a year should be secured to the trustees of this charity school, out of the tolls of the market, as forming part of Mr. Tomlyne's charity. The annual sum of 20*l*. was paid to the charity school till the 18th of October, 1761, from which time various arrears of the Annuity accrued amounting in 1806 to the sum of 458*l*. This balance was expended in the purchase of a school house, in 1815. The purchase money of this house, with the charges of repairing and fitting it up, amounted to 600*l*. 13*s*. exceeding the amount of the arrears by 142*l*. 13*s*. which was paid out of the Corporation funds. From the year 1806, the annuity of 20*l*. was paid to the charity school, till its combination with the national school; since which time it has been paid to the treasurer of the national school, to which establishment all the funds of the old school have been transferred. The interest of the bonds, amounting to 9*l*. 10*s*. per annum,

annum, has not been paid, but is retained by the Corporation in liquidation of the debt incurred of the school house. The interest thus retained, amounted in October 1819, to 114*l*. which reduced the debt to 21*l*: 13*s*. This house is now used for the female department of the national school, the boys' school being kept over the market cross.

Of the origin of the old school no vestige can be discovered; the children of that institution were clothed; and accordingly clothing to the amount of 27*l*. a year is given to the children in the national school, chosen by the subscribers in rotation. These children are also put out apprentice, with a premium of 3*l*.

**HOLLINGSWORTH'S CHARITY, AND NASH'S  
CHARITY.**

Thomas Hollingsworth left, by will, 23rd. February 1809, 50*l*. 4 per cent. bank annuities, the dividends of which to be laid out in good bread, and distributed at Christmas to poor widows of the parish of St. Lawrence.

Richard Nash, by will dated May 15th. 1814, gave 100*l*. the interest of which is to be given among the poor of the parish on Christmas day. With this legacy 100*l*. navy 5 per cent. stock was purchased. The dividends arising from these legacies, amounting to 7*l*. are given away in twopenny and sixpenny loaves, among the poor parishioners

parishioners on Christmas day, or a day or two after, at the Guild-hall, where they assemble for the purpose of receiving them.

This account includes all the productive charities up to the latest period ; besides these there were formerly others, which are now lost.

#### LOST CHARITIES.

George Foxe, of Stoke, by will dated 1st. of October, 1586, gave 30*l.* for charitable purposes.

Margarite Badie, by will dated 22nd. March, 1511, gave 20*l.* for ditto.

Robert Lewis, alias Drapper, by will dated 15th. May, 1571, gave 20*l.* for ditto.

William Lamb gave 100*l.* for ditto, by deed, dated 15th. of May, 1579.

Richard Rogers by will dated 25th. March, 1571, gave 10*l.* and the interest arising from his leasehold property in Portman meadow, and a close of pasture in Goalford, for charitable purposes.

Thomas Pingle, by will dated 22nd of April, 1640, gave 20*l.* the interest of which to be divided, one half to the poor of the Almshouse ; the other to the poor and impotent people of Ludlow.

Mr. Hugh Attwell gave 33*s.* 4*d.* "to keep the poor at work ; the stock for ever to remain ; the gain the poor's."



## THE PALMER'S GUILD.

From the preceding recital it will appear that Ludlow is distinguished above most other places of equal extent, by the number of its charitable establishments and donations for the relief of the poor; and as the most important of these have been derived from the Palmer's Guild, it is to be regretted that so little is known respecting that ancient fraternity. The terms Palmer and Pilgrim are by some accounted synonymous; it is evident, however, that in old authors the latter is of general, and the former of particular application; so Chaucer, speaking generally of those who travel to visit the shrines of Saints,—

"At night was come into that hostelrye  
Wel nine and twenty in a compaignie  
Of sondry folk, by aventure yfalle  
In felawship, and Pilgrimes were they alle  
That toward Canterbury wolden ride."

Those who travel into far distant countries, seem to be, by the same author denominated "Palmeres,"—

"Than longen folk to gon on pilgrimages,  
And Palmeres for to seken strange strondes,  
To serve halwes couthe in sondry londes."

Modern writers have embellished their works by striking delineations of the Palmer Pilgrim;

"Here is a holy Palmer come,  
From Salem first, and last from Rome;  
One that hath kissed the blessed tomb,  
And visited each holy shrine,  
In Araby and Palestine;  
On hills of Armenie hath been,  
Where Noah's Ark may yet be seen;

By

By that Red Sea too hath he trod,  
 Which parted at the prophet's rod;  
 In Sinai's wilderness he saw  
 The mount, where Israel heard the Law,  
 Mid thunder-dint, and flashing levin,  
 And shadows, mists and darkness given.  
 To stout Saint George of Norwich merry,  
 Saint Thomas, too, of Canterbury,  
 Cuthbert of Durham and Saint Bede,  
 For his sins' pardon hath he prayed."

Peculiar insignia, and the habit of this species of Pilgrim are also described ;—

"The summon'd Palmer came in place,  
 His sable cowl o'erhung his face;  
 In his black mantle was he clad,  
 With Peter's keys in cloth of red,  
 On his broad shoulders wrought;  
 The scallop shell his cap did deck;  
 The crucifix around his neck  
 Was from Loretto brought:  
 His sandals were with travel tore,  
 Staff, budget, bottle, scrip, he wore;  
 The faded Palm-branch, in his hand,  
 Shewed Pilgrim from the Holy Land."

Whoever examines the figures in the window of St. John's Chapel, will immediately identify them with this description.

The word Guild was formerly used in the same sense as we now apply the terms club, association, company, &c. with the included idea of incorporation; so that a society of this kind was for the benefit of the whole, with a common seal and power to buy and sell and to accumulate property. Etymologists derive the word from the Saxon verb, Guillan, to pay; each individual contributing, or paying his proportionate share for the support of the institution. The term is yet in use in the royal Burghs of Scotland, to denote a company of Merchants. If

If it be true, that the Palmers, reputed to have brought the ring from Jerusalem, were men of Ludlow, it thence follows that there existed here a Town, a considerable time before the Conquest; that the ancient fraternity of this "Goodly Guild," whose riches "the township did uphold," originally established themselves in a remote period of antiquity; and having survived the general destruction of the old religious institutions of the country, yielded at length to their fate: the society quietly submitting to its own dissolution, in the reign of Edward VI. leaving, in the noble building of Ludlow Church, a durable and splendid monument of its munificence; and whose members bequeathing the whole of their extensive Guild possessions to their native place, entitled themselves to the grateful remembrance of posterity in all succeeding ages.

#### ST. MARY WHITE FRIARS.

Following the town wall which supports the north side of the Churchyard, we enter Corve Street, where Corve Gate used to stand. Linney lane, passing from the gatestead of that name, joins this street near the bottom, with which, and a portion of the wall, it circumscribes a considerable piece of meadow and garden ground, supposed to have been formerly occupied by the House and contiguous possessions of St. Mary White Friars.

From what is recorded respecting this Friary, or Priory, we are led to form a high opinion of its riches and importance, it was, however, so completely demolished by King Harry's reformers, that in succeeding times, its name only has been remembered.

Leland informs us that this "College, or Fryery, was a fayre and costlie thinge, and stode without Corve Gate by north, almost at the end of that suburb;" and that "one Ludlowe, a Knight, Lord of Stoke Castle, or Pyle, towards Bishop's Castle, was original founder of it." He adds, "Vernon, an heir, is now owner of Stoke, and of late was taken founder of this House." That is to say, Vernon as heir of the house which he represented, was, in right of that heirship, the founder, or more properly the patron, of this establishment, at the time of its dissolution.

According to Speed, "this House was founded in the year 1349, the 24th of Edward III. by Sir Laurence de Ludlowe, Knight." Stukeley, who wrote about the year 1720, says "there was a rich Priory out of the town on the north side, small ruins now to be seen, excepting a little adjoining church, once belonging to it; about the same place, an arched gateway went across the street, but now demolished."

The "church" above-mentioned was the chapel

pel of St. Leonard, purchased by W. Foxe, Esq. of Bromfield, and by him originally intended to form part of the charitable and religious establishment here founded in the year 1590.

The Almshouse has however survived its chapel, and according to the will of its founder, is contributory to the maintenance of four poor and impotent persons; two from the parish of Bromfield, and two from Ludlow. According to the provisions of Mr. Foxe's will, the chapel was to have service performed in it, on Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, every week, and on certain other days occasionally. The lands and tenements from which the funds of this charity arose, were situated in Worcester, Ludlow, Ludford, and Ashford Bowdler.

In 1771, the trust of Foxe's charity was assigned over to the Corporation of Ludlow: in 1773, the chapel of St. Leonard was unroofed: in 1787, the walls were pulled down; and in 1789, the Corporation let out the ground on which the chapel stood, with the chapel-yard, to one of their own body on a lease of 99 years. The Almshouse is kept in good repair by the Corporation, who pay to each inmate 1s. 6d. weekly. Besides which payments, the almspeople receive each 3s. 2d. a year from Mrs. Susan Gay's Charity. The present income of the Charity consists of,--

|                                                                                         | £  | s. | d. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| The rent of the chapel ground . . . . .                                                 | 1  | 15 | 0  |
| Rents of houses in Worcester . . . . .                                                  | 11 | 9  | 6  |
| Money paid by Mr. Meyricke out of four houses<br>in Diabham . . . . .                   |    | 13 | 4  |
| Money paid by the Hon. R. H. Clive, out of<br>lands called the Chapel Leasows . . . . . |    | 26 | 0  |
|                                                                                         | 14 | 13 | 10 |

The sums paid annually by the Corporation,

|                                      |   |   |   |   |    |    |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|---|
| Four Alms-people at 1s. 6d. per week | - | - | - | - | 15 | 18 | 0 |
| To the Town Renter                   | - | - | - | - | 1  | 7  | 0 |
|                                      |   |   |   |   | 16 | 18 | 0 |

Exceeding the income by £2 : 5 : 2.

Near the bottom of Corve Street is a Chapel belonging to Protestant Dissenters, of the kind denominated Independents. The original institution of this society seems to have been between the years 1731 and 1733; and judging from the circumstances of the case, it may reasonably be inferred that its advancement from a private meeting of about twenty persons, to a number capable of supporting an officiating minister, was in no small degree owing to the injustice of persecution; which not only enlivens zeal, but in a thousand instances creates it; kindling a fire, which burns in the breasts of the sufferers and their posterity for many generations.

On Sunday March 21, in the year 1781, somewhat more than twenty persons met together in the house of Mrs. Jones, in High Street Ludlow, for the purpose of religious worship; which

which had scarcely commenced when a mob collected, who furiously attacked the house and threw stones through the windows, to the great terror and danger of the persons within: on which Mrs. Jones, Peter Griffin, and James Wynde went to the High Bailiff, Mr. Henry Davies, to request his assistance. But he instead of helping, charged them with the riot, threatening to prosecute them to the utmost rigor of the law, notwithstanding Mrs. Jones and her friends produced a licence for religious worship in her house, signed by fourteen Justices of the Peace. The mob hearing how matters stood, returned to the charge, and broke every window in the house. Mrs. Jones and her friends were now ordered before the Bailiffs, and a Justice of the Peace, who informed them that they stood fined in 20*l.* and bound to appear at the next Quarter Sessions. In the mean time, after urgent and repeated solicitations the riot Act was read, and toward evening the mob dispersed. A narrative of this case having been presented to the London Committee of Dissenting Ministers, the celebrated Dr. Samuel Chandler, who was one of that body at the time, advocated the cause of the sufferers, and by a legal process compelled the Ludlow Magistrates to make ample compensation. In the preface to a narrative of this transaction, published by  
Mrs.

Mrs. Mary Marlowe, it is stated that "it is well known to several yet living, (in 1772) that the gentlemen, who by their offices and stations, should have suppressed the mob, were subpoenaed to London, and there fined, reprimanded, and brought to beg pardon on their knees. Yet the good people generously forgave the fine and required no more than to have the damages repaired, and charges defrayed, as they only desired peace and quietness."

#### CORVE BRIDGE.

Corve River, which gives denomination to this Street, passes under a handsome stone bridge at the bottom of it. This bridge was built by the Corporation in 1787, and the foundation is said to have been made with stones from the Chapel of St. Leonard.

A little above Corve Gate is an antique building, known by the name of the Feathers Inn, which has formerly been an elegant mansion. In the mantle piece of one of the front rooms, well-preserved specimens of carved work remain, from which the traditionary account of its having belonged to one of the Justices of the Court of the Marches, is sufficiently confirmed; and the initials I. R. over the royal Arms, point out the time of James I.

From the top of Corve Street three other streets branch out in opposite directions, forming,



ing, there, an area or square of considerable dimensions. This was formerly an open place, but is now encumbered with buildings. From its having been the theatre of the savage and barbarous amusement of bull baiting, it is yet known by the name of the Bull-ring.

Eastward from the Bull-ring is Goalford Tower, the common prison of the town, which has of late been much improved. On the front is the following inscription,—

This building was erected at the charge of the Corporation, MDCCLIV, in the fourth year of King George the Third; for the Common Prison of this town; in the place of Goalford's Tower; an ancient Prison and Gate, by length of time become ruinous.

From the road which strikes off in an eastern direction from Goalford gate, at the place where the range of buildings called Lower Goalford terminate, there passes a narrow lane called Friar's Lane, which joins the bottom of Old Street, at the place where Old Gate formerly stood, and where there is yet to be seen some remains of the Gateway. This street comes in a direct line southward from the Bull-ring; and the lane below it, paying a chief rent to the manor of Holgate, is called Holgate Fee. Behind Old Street there is a suit of gardens, occupying a triangular piece of ground, bounded on one side by Lower Goalford, and on the other by Friar's Lane. On this enclosure was situated the religious establishment for Augustine Friars, or  
Friars

**Friars Eremites.** The founder of this Friary is not known. Edmund de Pontibus, that is Bridgeman, was a benefactor. The first religious house of this order established in England was Woda House, near Cleobury.

Passing along the road which leaves the town at the bottom of Holgate Fee, we come to a small tump of earth and stones which marks the boundary of the township. The name of the "Weeping Cross," yet retained by this land mark, serves to preserve the traditionary record of a Cross, and indicates the probability that not far distant from it, there may in ancient times, have been a monkish cell or anchoritage. It is generally believed that the *Marn Achwynfan*, or stone of lamentation, was peculiar to the ancient Britons, and erected by them some time previous to the mission of St. Augustine. Erections of this denomination consisted of one solid stone upwards of twelve feet high, with a rounded head, on which was the figure of a cross ornamented with singular sculptures. Beside these sacred pillars the weeping penitent was conducted, to confess his sins, to the officiating priest.

Adjoining to Old Gate is the Workhouse, with a small prison or cell attached to it, called the House of Correction, for securing vagrants and other petty delinquents. The original institution of this parochial establishment was by an

individual of the name of Thomas Lane, of Ludlow, who had in early life, been a domestic servant in the Charlton family, and who by will, dated 20th. Nov. 1674, bequeathed the greater part of his Estate to Sir Job Charlton, and two others, to be by them disposed of as he should appoint, or, in default of such appointment, to such charitable use as they judged best.

From the will of Sir Job Charlton, the last survivor of these trustees, dated Dec. 6th. 1691, it appears that the money derived from this bequest had been employed in repairing and furnishing an old house, which had been granted to the trustees by the town of Ludlow, and in purchasing certain lands in Middleton, called the Measles, of the annual value of about £30; and by his said will, Sir Job Charlton desires his son Francis to take care, that the charitable fund of his grateful servant Thomas Lane, be employed to maintain a Workhouse and House of Correction, for the benefit of the poor of Ludlow and the neighbouring villages; (which it appears he had already established in the old house above-mentioned) and he directs that the rents and profits of the lands at Middleton, and whatever else should arise from the property bequeathed, should go for the maintenance of the master of the said Workhouse, and for keeping it in repair; and that his right heirs, or in default thereof,

thereof, the Rector of Ludlow, the Vicar of Ludford, and the chief Magistrate of Ludlow, should nominate one of the chamber, or at least one of the inhabitants of Ludlow to be the master of the said Workhouse. Under the residuary clause of Thomas Lane's will, a reversion passed to the use of this charity of certain premises granted to his widow during her life. These consisted of a house in Broad Street now let to Mr. W. Smith, Joiner, for £20 a year; and also a garden, near Brand Lane, a meadow between Mill Street Mills and Ludford Bridge, and a meadow in the township of Halton; these last-mentioned premises together with the lands in Middleton were exchanged with Sir Charles William Rous Boughton, Bart. for some meadow and pasture lands called East Fields and Partners, in the parish of Stanton Lacy, let for £56 a year, in 1790; these lands are now let from year to year to Benjamin Flounders, Esq. at a rent of £100. There was in 1820, in the hands of E. L. Charlton, Esq. of Ludford, (the present trustee of the charity, as heir of Sir Job Charlton,) the sum of £216 : 8 : 3 the amount of a balance due in 1816, arising from the savings of income. This sum was destined by Mr. Charlton to the erection of a new House of Correction, the present one, a single small apartment at the back of the Workhouse, being  
totally

totally unfit for the purpose; but the design has been for the present suspended, in consequence of a proposal now in agitation, for building a House of Correction in the Jail Yard, at the joint charges of the Corporation and the Charity.

The income of the Charity, amounting now to £120 a year, was, in 1818, applied as follows,—

|                                                | L     | s. | d. |
|------------------------------------------------|-------|----|----|
| Governor's Salary . . . . .                    | 20    | 0  | 0  |
| Repairs . . . . .                              | 24    | 8  | 8  |
| Raw Materials, and charges for Weaving & Dying | 45    | 5  | 6  |
| Taxes . . . . .                                | 7     | 16 | 0  |
|                                                | <hr/> |    |    |
|                                                | 97    | 10 | 2  |

leaving a surplus of income (which in 1818, was £114, the rent of the house in Broad Street, being only £14,) of £16 : 9 : 10; and in 1816 there remained in the hands of the Receiver a surplus of £14 : 9 : 0, exclusive of the sum of £216 : 18 : 3 paid in that year to Mr. Charlton.

The Governor is appointed by Mr. Charlton, and receives from the parish an additional salary of £20 per annum.

The expense of maintaining the poor in the house is defrayed by the parish, and the conduct of the establishment is entirely under the management of the Overseers.

The raw materials furnished to be worked up in the house, are, flax and hemp, and wool for spinning, and knitting stockings, and leather

ther for making shoes. The materials prepared for the Weaver, are made into cloth for the use of the house.

The clothes thus made are never sold, but are entirely consumed in the house, except in some few instances where poor persons, whom it has been necessary to clothe, have left the house in search of work, taking their clothes with them; and in some yet fewer instances, where poor persons, whom it has been necessary to clothe, have had clothes out of the house. This when done is by order of the Overseers.

Notwithstanding the general good management of this institution, it might seem that there has been a little want of correctness in dealing out the materials on which labour was to be exerted. No account having been kept by the Overseers, or the Governors, of the amount of the manufactured articles, so as to ascertain the relative value, and the consequent amount of benefit received. Neither was there kept any account of the quantities of the raw material delivered to the paupers respectively, to shew whether the whole had been properly worked up. The present Governor, sensible of these deficiencies, has of his own accord undertaken to make more correct statements in future.

Whether from the annual surplus of income, over the present expenditure, a fund might be formed

formed for enlarging the premises, with a view to the extension of the objects of the charity, may perhaps be a matter worthy of consideration.

From the Workhouse, the narrow lane called Frog Lane, conducts us to the bottom of Broad Street. The foundation of the Town Wall may be traced here, and the Fosse has been converted into garden ground.

The arched passage of Broad Gate remains entire; from which lower Broad Street conducts us to Ludford Bridge, near which to the left is a field called St. John's Close, indicating the place where St John's College formerly stood. In the catalogue of suppressed religious houses, neither the time of the foundation of this College, nor the founder's name are to be found; but it is stated in the Monasticon, that "St. John Baptist's Hospital founded by Peter Undergot, near the river of Temede Water, for a master and religious brothers, was endowed by him with several lands, and the brothers after his death authorised to chuse their own masters for ever, without any obstruction; and the said masters and brothers to admit such as they should think fit into their brotherhood, and to receive the poor and infirm, and to do all such other things as should become religious men."

Perfectly consistent with this account is that  
of

of Leland, if we consider Jordan of Ludford to have been the descendant or heir of Undergot, he says "there was formerly on the north side of the bridge, a Church of St. John, standing without Broad Gate, which had a College, with a Dean and Fellows, of the foundation of Jordan de Ludford." The historical accounts of Walter Lacie and Gilbert his son as benefactors, and of Peter Undergot as patron or founder of this college, mark out distinct periods of antiquity, approaching to, and almost coeval with the conquest; and as long as the name shall remain which the site of this religious foundation has given to the inclosure on which it stood, the traditionary record of its former existence will not be forgotten.

The well-built stone Bridge is supposed to have been erected by the Corporation, but at what time is not known: the river here, parts the two counties of Salop and Hereford.

Near the top of lower Broad Street is a Chapel, or Meeting House, belonging to the Wesleyan Methodists, built in the year 1800, and service first performed there the 18th day of August in the same year.

The stranger who enters Ludlow through Broad Gate will see the town in an advantageous point of view; the Gate itself is an interesting object, and upper Broad Street is spacious and well-built.





**Broad Gate.**

From Broad Gate, (the gateway to which is the only one now remaining entire) Barnaby Lane passes into the bottom of Mill Street; it receives this name from an ancient religious foundation called Barnaby House, famous in the age of pilgrimages, as the temporary resting place of the numerous devotees passing through Ludlow on their way to the holy well of St. Wenefrede, in North Wales. Adjoining this building there formerly stood a Chapel dedicated to St. Mary of the Vale, on the site of which a Silk Factory was sometime since erected, which is now converted into a wool warehouse. This vicinity has received the name of Merry Vale, derived from the familiar epithet of Mary Vale, applied to the chapel.

The Gateway of Mill Gate is at the end of Barnaby Lane, and Mill Street, like Broad Street, rises in a northern direction, up a considerably elevated ascent, many of the buildings on each side of which are suited to the liberal dimensions and elegant appearance of this street. A little above Mill Gate, to the right is the Free Grammar School, the original foundation of which is not known.

The school premises comprise two houses, in which the two masters reside; and the school room and bed rooms over it. Some years ago the enlargement and repairs of the premises cost nearly £700, and the head master's house is now sufficiently large to accommodate forty boarders. The masters live free of rent and parochial rates, but pay the King's taxes. They are allowed to take boarders with out restriction.

All children who apply to the head master, and are able to read decently, residing in the town, are immediately admitted. The scholars are taught Latin and Greek, if they wish it, and read English, gratis. For writing and arithmetic, the boys in the lower school pay three guineas per annum, and in the upper, two guineas. The under master teaches writing and arithmetic, and receives the whole emolument.

Four boys of this school receive a benefaction  
of

of £2 : 18 : 4 each, by the year, under the will of Dr. Langford; these four boys to be nominated by the Bailiffs, "out of such poor and towardlie for learning as are born in the town of Ludlow;" to be nine years of age and to continue until sixteen, and no longer. These boys wear black gowns on sundays, when they go to church, and are called Langfordian boys.

The school is also entitled to two exhibitions, to Balliol College, Oxford, upon the endowment of the Rev. Richard Greaves, in the year 1704, the trusts of which are vested in the College.

The annual expenditure of this school is as follows;—

|                                     | L     | s. | d. |
|-------------------------------------|-------|----|----|
| Salary of the Head Master . . . . . | 80    | 0  | 0  |
| Ditto of the Under Master . . . . . | 60    | 0  | 0  |
| Average of Repairs . . . . .        | 15    | 0  | 0  |
| Poor and Parish Rates . . . . .     | 10    | 0  | 0  |
|                                     | <hr/> |    |    |
|                                     | 165   | 0  | 0  |

Opposite the school is an old building, formerly a distillery, now converted into a

#### THEATRE,

which is occasionally occupied by the Worcester Company of Actors, especially during the Races. Toward the top of this street is the

#### GUILDHALL,

an elegant modern building erected at the expence of the Corporation, in the year 1768, on the site of the old building of that name, originally belonging to the Palmer's Guild.

The

The suburbs below Mill Gate receive the name of Lower Mill Street, from which place distinct traces of the town wall are to be seen almost to the New Bridge. This is a plain wooden bridge, on stone piers, over the Teme, nearly opposite the Castle.

The lane leading from the bottom of Mill Street to Dinham, bears the name of Camp Lane, from the frequent encampments of soldiers on the ground extending from it to the river. In 1786 Dinham Gateway remained entire, and many persons now living, remember the Chapel approached by a flight of steps to the right, on entering the town. We might have been induced to believe this the Chapel built by Roger Mortimer in the year 1323, had it not been distinctly recorded to have stood within the outer court of the Castle, and, as is generally believed, contiguous to the court-house.

Immediately under the south wall of the Castle, is a handsome brick-built mansion, the occasional residence of the Clive Family. This building receives the name of

DINHAM HOUSE,

and the neighbourhood that of Dinham from the original name of Dinan, indicating the existence of a Palace, or princely residence, which doubtless stood here when the Britons, occupied

pied Ludlow, previous to the time when the kingdom of Mercia began to extend itself beyond its ancient boundary of the Severn.

Dinas, and Dinan, are words frequently occurring in the accounts of British Antiquities, and are sometimes found applied to places of apparent insignificance, yet a careful investigation will generally discover that places so denominated have been formerly occupied by some Chief or Prince of the country.

Toward the close of the late war, Lucien Buonaparte being detained a prisoner in England, was conducted to Ludlow, and Dinham House selected for his residence. This circumstance, though in itself of trifling importance, yet as relating to a man whose name is connected with the history of the most extraordinary occurrences of the age, ought not to be passed over in silence. We refer to history for a detail of transactions leading to his seizure and detention, but it may not be improper here to remark that Ludlow, which has, in former times, been honoured as the resort of crowned heads, was in this instance, the abode of a man who had at least the merit of having refused a crown, which was to be purchased by usurpation and held by tyranny.

Lucien Buonaparte and family left Ludlow on Sunday June 30, 1811.



The Market House.

Out of Dinham we pass into Castle Street, in which is a plain brick building called the Market House, containing large and convenient rooms used for meetings of the Corporation, Bailiff's Balls, Subscription Assemblies, &c. Beneath is an open space for the corn market. Attached to this building are two reservoirs, to one of which, water is raised from the river by machinery at the bottom of Lower Mill Street ; the other receives spring water from a place called the Fountain, under Whitecliff Coppice.

Raven Lane passes from the Market House into the cross lane called Bell Lane, which connects Mill Street and Broad Street; in a line with which is Brand Lane, passing from Broad Street into Old Street. Near the end of this lane is the house appropriated to the use of the girls

girls belonging to the National School, which was opened on the 11th of February, 1814. The School Room is lofty and spacious, measuring in length upwards of 28 feet, and 15 in breadth; the number of scholars is about 80. The School Room for the boys belonging to this institution is over the Market Cross, at the top of Broad Street, and is that formerly occupied by the Blue Coat School, with which it is incorporated. The room measures, in length 52 feet 5 inches, in breadth 28 feet 8 inches and in height 11 feet. The number of scholars taught is about 200. The National School was first established on the 3rd of February, 1813. It is supported by voluntary subscriptions, by annual collections made in the Church, and by various legacies, together with the income arising from the funds of the Blue Coat School.

The annual income of this establishment will vary according to circumstances, but perhaps the difference will not be very material; the following is an abstract of the account for the year 1821,—

|                    | L.  | s. | d. |
|--------------------|-----|----|----|
| Receipts . . . . . | 253 | 12 | 11 |
| Payments . . . . . | 207 | 7  | 11 |

leaving a balance in favour of the charity of  
£46 : 5 : 0.

The



**The Market Cross.**

The Market Cross is a modern erection, chiefly occupied by market women who expose for sale, butter and other productions of the farm ; on which account it is sometimes called the Butter Cross. In the cupola of this elegant building is a bell, formerly belonging to the Chapel of St. Leonard, on which is the following inscription,—All Prayse and Glory to God for evermore. 1684.

Eastward from the top of Broad Street, is King Street, leading to the Bull Ring ; and the opposite street, which conducts us to the Market House, is called High Street.

Here our circuit of the town ends ; in the course of which, every thing remarkable has  
been



been noticed that can be supposed to interest the passing traveller, or the more attentive observer of the relics of former ages. Except the Castle, and the Friary of St. Mary, the more ancient buildings cannot be distinctly traced back to their origin: though it is sufficiently evident that some of them were of great antiquity. It is well known that the oldest remains of christian institutions in this country, are found in Wales, and in other parts inhabited by the Britons previous to the predominancy of the Saxon power; which proves that Christianity was introduced into this island long before the arrival of the first Catholic Missionary. "The Britons," says an old writer, "who were the aborigines of this island, were by a special instinct, much devoted to the contemplation of heavenly things; for the ancient Druids, who were the first divines or professors of religion, (who in lieu of Monasteries and Colleges, were used to retire into woods and solitary places to study the works of God and nature) were renowned far and near; and as Cæsar and Tacitus write, the Gauls were used to come over to be instructed by them. Cassibelan whom Cæsar and Tacitus speak of as King of Britain on its first discovery, was also the first christian King; for in his time it pleased the Father of Light to display the early beams of christianity in this island;

island; as Gregory the 15th writes, "no sooner did the Roman Eagle fly over hither, but the standard of the Cross was inarborated and set up."

It was the uniform practice of the Saxon invaders, to substitute for the old names of places, new ones of their own; but in all instances where both are found, we may be fully certain, that the Britons were the original occupiers; and from the meaning of those names may be inferred the nature of the institutions or public buildings to which they belonged. The British name for this town, which has a distinct meaning different from that of its Saxon name of Ludlow, proves beyond a doubt, the original occupation of this place by the Britons, and the nature of their establishment here.

It is evident that religious establishments subsisting through a succession of many ages, gradually changed to suit the fashions of the times; and the simple form of an incorporated brotherhood, which was most consistent with christianity in its original purity, as it became disguised and perverted by the inventions of Priests, assumed a more showy exterior. Hence we find that the religious society of St. John the Baptist had degenerated at the time of its dissolution, and possessed a Dean and Fellows. It is also highly probable that the  
Palmer's

Palmer's Guild originated from an ancient British foundation, of a very different character from what it had acquired at a latter period.

The civil regulations of our ancestors are in many instances not less involved in obscurity than those of a religious kind, for though we frequently recognise in numerous names and phrases yet retained in our law language, the tyrannous institutions and customs of the Conqueror, as well as the more generous and wise usages of the noble Alfred, yet from these remaining fragments, distinct ideas of the manner in which their administration was conducted are not easily to be collected.

## GOVERNMENT.

The town of Ladbroke had, previous to its first charter given by the fourth Edward, been governed as at present by the twelve and twenty-five, through a period, defective in historical records, and extending far beyond human recollection. Hence, an enquiry into the origin of its former and present civil constitution would be altogether fruitless. The phrase Free Burgh, is understood to be synonymous with the Roman appellation of Municipal, or free city; both of them denoting, in reference to the place to which they were applied, an exemption from the immediate jurisdiction of any foreign power. The system sanctioned by Edward IV/

for

for the Government of Ludlow, was nearly the same as it had previously enjoyed: the citizens were too much attached to their ancient constitution to desire any alteration, and the monarch's gratitude for the important services he had received in his greatest difficulties, would not allow him to oppose their wishes. This charter was renewed, and in some particulars altered during the succeeding reigns, from Edward IV, to Charles II, but in the time of William and Mary, in the year 1690, its original form was restored in conformity to the wishes of the principal inhabitants who petitioned Parliament for that purpose.

Ludlow is governed by a Recorder, two Bailiffs, two Justices, twelve Aldermen, twenty-five Common Council Men, Town Clerk, chief Constable, Coroner, and several other inferior officers.

In the process of forming this civil establishment, thirty-seven individuals are first selected from among the Burgesses of the town. Out of these, twelve are chosen as Aldermen, or principal Burgesses, and one of this number is elected High Bailiff. The remaining twenty-five are the Common Council, from which the low Bailiff is chosen.

The privilege of burgesship is inherited by the sons of Burgesses, and those who marry their

their daughters are entitled also to be admitted into this body; for which purpose they are required to petition, according to the prescribed form, given in the bye-law, made in the year 1663.

The annual election of the Bailiffs is on the 13th of October; and they enter upon their offices on the 28th of the same month, on which occasion a public Dinner is provided, which is always numerously attended by the principal inhabitants of the town, and by the neighbouring nobility and gentry. A Ball is afterwards given, and the whole of these entertainments are on a liberal scale, splendid and expensive, far above any thing of the kind in this part of the country.

The Quarter Sessions are held here before the Recorder, the High Bailiff, and the Justices of the town. This court has in former times passed sentence of death, but the Recorders of late years, not being Barristers, all persons liable to be tried for capital offences are removed by Habeas Corpus to the county jail.

A Court of Record is held every Tuesday, the Recorder and Bailiffs presiding as Judges.

Ludlow was authorised to send two Representatives to Parliament, by King Edward IV, in the year 1461, the first of his reign; which privilege it appears ever since to have enjoyed. The right of electing is understood to be in all the

the resident Burgesses, and the Bailiffs are the returning officers.

#### CUSTOMS.

Among the customs peculiar to this town, that of the Rope Pulling is not the least extraordinary. On Shrove Tuesday the Corporation provide a Rope three inches in thickness, and in length thirty-six yards, which is given out at one of the windows of the Market House, as the clock strikes four; when a large body of the inhabitants divided into two parties, one contending for Castle Street and Broad Street Wards, and the other for Old Street and Corve Street Wards, commence an arduous struggle; and as soon as either party gains the victory by pulling the Rope beyond the prescribed limits, the pulling ceases; which is, however, renewed by a second, and sometimes by a third contest, the Rope being purchased by subscription from the victorious party, and given out again. Without doubt this singular custom is symbolical of some remarkable event, and a remnant of that ancient language of visible signs, which, says a celebrated writer, "imperfectly supplies the want of letters, to perpetuate the remembrance of public or private transactions." The sign, in this instance, has survived the remembrance of the occurrence it was designed to represent, and remains a profound mystery. It has been insinuated,

insinuated, that the real occasion of this custom is known to the Corporation, but that for some reason or other, they are tenacious of the secret. An obscure tradition attributes this custom to circumstances arising out of the siege of Ludlow by Henry VI, when two parties arose within the town, one supporting the pretensions of the Duke of York, and the other wishing to give admittance to the King; one of the Bailiffs is said to have headed the latter party. History relates that in this contest many lives were lost, and that the Bailiff, heading his party in an attempt to open Dinham Gate, fell a victim there. If this custom was intended to represent the scene of civil strife referred to, we will leave our Readers to judge whether or not it be an apt emblem of it.

In common with other ancient places, Ludlow yet preserves the custom of walking over the limits of the township once a year; this procession is on the Wednesday before Holy Thursday; on which day the boys of the different schools, attended by one of the Clergy, proceed from the Church to a place near Corve Bridge, where a Cross formerly stood; here the Epistle of the preceding Sunday is read; from whence passing to the Weeping Cross, the boys again kneel down and the Gospel, for the same day is read by the Clergyman, after which the ceremony is completed at the Guildhall.

## MERCIAN LODGE.

The ancient Society of Free Masons have a Lodge at the Angel Inn, where, they usually meet monthly, on the Tuesday preceding the full moon. This Lodge was brought out of Herefordshire, where it used to be distinguished by the appellation "Silurian;" on its removal here it received the name of the "Mercian Lodge."

Here is a public Dispensary established in the year 1780, which, by the benevolent exertions of the presiding Physician, and the assistance of a very liberal subscription, proves extensively useful in administering relief to the diseased poor.

There has also been established here, a Society for the relief of Lying-in Women, in indigent circumstances. The persons relieved are poor men's wives, of reputable character; to whom sheets, napkins, bedgowns, caps and various other necessary articles are supplied during the time of their confinement, to be returned on their recovery. Pecuniary relief, is also given, in some instances. A committee of twelve Ladies conduct the business of this Society. Each Subscriber is allowed to recommend one woman for the Annual Subscription of 10s. 6d. This very excellent Charity is well supported.

There



There are a considerable number of respectable Benefit Societies in the town, whose meetings are held at the Red Lion, Sun, George, Golden Cross, Barley Mow and the Feathers.

Three companies yet remain, of the incorporated tradesmen, namely, first, that of the Stitchmen, consisting of glovers, tailors, breeches-makers, stay-makers, &c. second, the Hammer-men, blacksmiths, braziers, masons, &c. third, leather-men, tanners, curriers, shoemakers, &c. these have yet annual feasts which they call "Halls" from their having been formerly held in the town Guild.

The annual Races held here are generally in the month of July and consist of two days sport. In the Morning of the first day, are run for,—

The LUDFORD STAKES of Ten Guineas each, and a SWEEPSTAKES of Ten Guineas each.

And in the Evening,—

A MAIDEN PLATE of £50; and a SWEEPSTAKES of Five Guineas each, to which is added, by E. L. Charlton, Esq. a Cup value Twenty Guineas.

In the Morning of the second day, are run for,—

A SWEEPSTAKES of ten Guineas each, with Twenty Pounds added by the Town; and a SWEEPSTAKES for HUNTERS of Ten Guineas each.

And in the Evening,—

A PLATE of Fifty Pounds; and the YEOMANRY CAVALRY STAKES of Five Guineas each, to which is added, by Viscount Clive, a Cup value Twenty Guineas.

The Races are succeeded by a Ball; and by a Public Breakfast, which is held in the inner court of the Castle.

Ludlow

Ludlow cannot boast of any particular manufactory on a large scale; the greater part of the town being inhabited by genteel Families, attracted probably by the healthy and pleasant situation of the place. Its chief trade is in gloves, in the manufacture of which a great number of persons of both sexes are employed. Besides this, there is considerable business done in the paper-making, tanning, timber trade and cabinet-making.

The Population of Ludlow, as taken in the years 1811 and 1821, was found to be as follows,

| 1811.               |   |      | 1821.            |   |      |
|---------------------|---|------|------------------|---|------|
| Males               | - | 1810 | Males            | - | 2120 |
| Females             | - | 2340 | Females          | - | 2700 |
| Total               | - | 4150 | Total            | - | 4820 |
| Inhabited Houses    | - | 877  | Inhabited Houses | - | 1006 |
| Families            | - | 1105 | Families         | - | 1139 |
| Increase since 1811 |   |      | -                |   |      |
|                     |   |      | 670              |   |      |

In conformity to the provisions of an Act of Parliament, procured for that purpose, the town of Ludlow was first paved and lighted in the year 1794, the commencement of the paving being in Castle Street, on the 6th of March in that year.

The town is built on a foundation, partly rocky, and partly a hard dry gravel: and the water, which on digging rises through the strata, is superior to what is supplied by pumps in the generality of towns. Upon evaporation this water leaves a small portion of a whitish salt on the

the sides and bottom of the vessel, which deliquesces on exposure to the air, and is conceived to be muriate of lime, a substance frequently found in wells contiguous to buildings.

The town being excellently supplied with water, there is little occasion to seek for springs in the neighbourhood, of which however there are several worth attention, particularly one in a field beyond Linney, called the Boiling Well; another called Sugar Well near the Paper Mills; and the far-famed well of St. Julian in Ludford.

## WALKS AND RIDES.

The vicinity of Ludlow supplies numerous pleasant walks and rides in every direction; being in its immediate, as well as more distant surrounding scenery, equal, or perhaps superior to any inland town in the kingdom. Nearest the town, the gravel walks round the Castle deserve our first notice, from whence passing over the New Bridge, and ascending Whitecliff Hill we find ourselves on an elevation, which gratifies the lover of rural, woodland, and cultivated scenes, by affording a pleasing and ever varying prospect. The retired walk called Hackluyt's Close, under a row of stately elms, behind Ludford House; that on the banks of the Teme, toward the Paper Mill, and numerous others equally interesting might be enumerated.

Among the rides in this vicinity, one is remarkably

markably pleasing, and has been particularly noticed by judicious travellers; it passes near Oakley Park, crossing the Teme by Downton Castle, and from thence through the extensive woods along the new road to Ludlow; the whole comprehending not much more than ten miles, yet affording such a charming variety of rich scenery and rural beauty, as can very seldom indeed be surpassed by the combined efforts of nature and art.

#### RIVERS.

The River Teme, after being joined by the Corve, at a short distance north of Ludlow, embraces its western and southern sides, and—

*“Slowly winding lingers long,  
While fancy listens to the virgin’s voice,  
Smoothing the brow of evening with her song,  
Or hears the uproar wild of Comus and his throng.”*

In this river are found Pike, Trout, Greyling, Perch, Eels, and various other kinds of fish; the Corve supplies Trout, Greyling, Chubb, &c.

The Corve in its course by the bottom of Corve Street and Linney, turns a wheel to grind bark, for the tanners, and puts in motion machinery for manufacturing cordage, sacking, &c. and on the Teme are also several Corn Mills, a Paper Mill, and at the foot of Ludford Bridge, a small Factory, belonging to an industrious and thriving individual, who manufactures Woollen Cloths, Flannels, Yarns, Blankets, &c.

## Gentlemen's Seats,

*Villages, &c.*

IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF LUDLOW.



AS a necessary appendage to this work, we will now endeavour to give some account of such places of note in this neighbourhood, as commonly excite attention, commencing with the Village of Ludford, which is immediately connected with the town.

### LUDFORD HOUSE,

the old fashioned seat of the Charltons; is conspicuous, on a rising ground, above the village, and preserves an antique appearance, though considerably embellished by its present possessor, E. Lechmere Charlton, Esq. This gentleman is of the ancient family of the Lechmeres of Hanley Castle, in the county of Worcester; which family (as appears from Nash's History of that county) originally came out of the low countries, and served under William the Conqueror. Nicholas Lechmere, Knight, Baron of the Exchequer in 1701, and Nicholas Lord Lechmere, Baron of Evesham, who was Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and of the privy council of George I. were of this fa-

mily, which has besides repeatedly represented the county and city of Worcester.

Edmund Lechmere, Esq. the son of Anthony, who was the elder brother of Lord Lechmere, married Elizabeth the sister of Sir Francis Charlton, Bart. and by her had Nicholas, who on the death of his maternal uncle (Sir Francis dying without issue) came into the possession of this property, and assumed the name and arms of Charlton, which devolved on his son, the present inheritor.

This Mansion is without doubt of great antiquity, as is indicated by its approximation to the Church, its interior quadrangle, and its style of masonry; particularly the parts fronting the Leominster road, and the churchyard. Even in Sir Francis' time there were nothing but casements throughout the house, and so much did some parts of the building resemble a prison, that a Scotchman passing by, when the dairy maid was looking through the window, is reported to have exclaimed "ah ye be a bonny lassie, but I weel ken ye be there for na gude." The proprietor has in his possession, a deed in which mention is made of a house here in the remote period of the eleventh century. Of what kind, the house referred to by this deed was, does not appear, but it is conjectured to have been a religious foundation; and vestiges  
of

of cells (in the recollection of old people) with certain mural decorations, warrant this supposition, and the presumption that it is even coeval with the erection of the Castle of Ludlow, and once, perhaps, partly dependant upon that ancient Baronial Palace: a religious establishment however certainly existed here, and though in no account that we have been able to meet with, can be traced any immediate connection between it and the Castle, yet in early days it was almost ever the custom to unite monastic institutions with magnificent castellated residences, as may be instanced in Priors or Abbeys adjacent to Kenilworth, Warwick, Kirklees, &c.

In the time of William the Conqueror this manor made part of the possessions of Osborn the son of Richard, Lord of Richard's Castle. It was afterwards enjoyed by the family of Jordæn, who deriving his surname from the place, was called Jordæn de Ludford. This Jordæn left two daughters, whereof one died unmarried, the other married Howel Vaughan, who gave or sold the manor and its appurtenances to the Hospital of St. John the Baptist, in Ludlow.

The Hospital of St. John being seized by the Commissioners at the time of the general dissolution of religious houses, in the reign of Henry VIII. this manor, as appertaining to that foundation, was also conveyed to the crown: it was afterwards

afterwards granted by Edward VI. to John Earl of Warwick ; of whom it was purchased by William Foxe, and in the year 1607 it came into the Charlton family.

This family had previously enjoyed extensive possessions in the county of Salop, and were resident at Appley Castle, near Wellington. Thomas Charlton, was Bishop of Hereford in the year 1327. In the year 1337, he was appointed treasurer to Edward II. and soon afterwards made Chancellor of Ireland. He died in 1343, and was buried in Hereford Cathedral, where his effigy may be seen on an altar monument under an arch in the north transept.

Lewis Charlton, became Bishop of Hereford in 1361. Bale calls him Caerleon, and it has been supposed that he was born in that ancient city ; but it is more probable, that as we find this family name written Carleton in ancient records, it has originated from the progenitors of the house, having assumed Caerleon as a surname. This prelate before his elevation to the See had prosecuted his studies with much assiduity and success, at each of the English Universities, and had been elected Chancellor of Oxford in the year 1357. He was a profound theologian, learned in mathematics, and had some knowledge of medicine. Dying A. D. 1369, he bequeathed his books to the cathedral,



dral, with £40 in money. His monument in the south-east aisle, though now much mutilated, presents an interesting appearance: it is in the form of an altar, on which his effigy, mitred, is extended at full length; over the recess in which it is inclosed, is a rich fret-work Gothic canopy, much defaced, and the whole is surmounted with a highly wrought entablature; on the wall, above the effigy is the following inscription,—

Ludovicus Charlton, Epia: Heref: A. D. 1369.

On the tomb are four shields, on the first of which are engraved croslets fitchee, on the second and third a lion rampant, on the fourth the arms of the See.

Sir John Charlton, born at Appley Castle in 1268, was of the bed chamber to King Edward II, and afterwards raised to the office of Chief Justice. He married Hawis Gadaru, sole daughter and heiress of Owen ap Griffith, the last Prince of Powis: her four uncles, Llewellyn, John Griffith, Vaughan, and David, detained her inheritance from her, whereupon Hawis complained to King Edward, who appointed Sir John to marry her, creating him in her right, Baron of Powis: and being assisted with the King's forces, he took three of her uncles prisoners, about 1320, and brought the fourth to composition, and finally recovered  
all

all his wife's estate, procuring also the lands of her uncles in default of their issue male, to be settled on her. Isabel, sister to Sir John, married John Sutton, Baron Dudley, from whom the Earls of Warwick and Leicester are descended. This Barony after four generations, devolved, in default of male issue, on Sir John Grey, Knight, who married the eldest daughter of Edward Charlton, fourth Lord Powis, by Eleanor daughter of Thomas Hollande, Earl of Kent, and widow of Roger Mortimer, Earl of March. But to a junior branch of this noble family, did the property of Appley Castle and Whitton Court descend. Sir Robert Charlton who suffered much for his loyalty to Charles I. resided there. His son Sir Job, Chief Justice of Chester, and one of the Judges of the Common Pleas, bought Ludford, and being a gentleman remarkable for his hospitality and convivial disposition, during the time that King James II. resided at Ludlow Castle, had the honour of entertaining his Sovereign at Ludford House, and his Majesty, by frequently repeating his visits, seemed to give an unequivocal proof of being pleased with his reception. One David Davis, who died many years ago, at the great age of 104, was a domestic in the family and waited on them. The grey-headed old man towards the decline of life, enjoying ease and plenty

ty from the bounty of his employer, was used to dwell with rapture on the noble guests at Ludford, and the true british conviviality which reigned round the large table, still remaining in the Hall.

There are a few pictures at Ludford House of considerable merit.—A Wouvermans, three Jacob Ruysdaels, two Bassans, and a portrait of Lord Strafford, by Sir Peter Lely, are most conspicuous.

To the south of the house lies the garden, which of late has undergone extensive improvements. Towards the west is a large park, well stocked with deer, and remarkable for its fine luxuriant wood scenery: and in a line with the Leominster road, under the park wall, is a pleasant and much-frequented walk called Hackluyt's Close, not far from the termination of which is a respectable farm house called Huck's Barn; only noticed on account of its having been the residence of the uncle of George Barnwell. Tradition says that in a piece of ground not far from this house, which still retains the name of Barnwell's Green, this wretched victim of seduction, waited to rob and murder his friend and benefactor.

Leland, the father of English antiquaries, whose writings are from actual surveys, visited Ludlow sometime between the years 1500 and 1550, and observes respecting Ludford:—

"The suburbs over Teme bridge, by south, is called Ludford, and in it is a little parish church. There be three fayre arches in this bridge over Teme, and a pretty chapel upon it of St. Catherine. It is about 100 years since this stone bridge was erected. Men passed along by a ford, a little below the bridge."

Allowing for the change in appearance which modern additions and improvements would give, we may reasonably suppose that the present parish church is the same as that described in the above extract: it is a plain building and immediately contiguous to Ludford House. The holy-water basons at the entrance and beside the altar, indicate that catholicism had not declined at the time of its erection. The chancel was built by William Foxe, and is evidently a modern addition to the church: it is the family sepulchral repository, where we find, among others, two or three monuments of the Foxe family, and two or three of the Charlton: Sir Job's we shall transcribe, which is in a recess above his statue, reclining in his magisterial habiliments.

*Hic jacent reliquiae Honorabilis viri Domini Job Charlton, Equitis et Baronettii qui Imperante Carolo Secundo Justitarius capitalis Cestriae fuit merito constitutus.*

*Quo in munere Annos magis viginti elaboravit. Senatoribus minorum gentium Prolocutor, nec non unus ex Justitiariis Domini Regis de Banco gravissimus hisce negotiis omnimode Fuit: quorum singula tum perspicaci ingenio, tum fide pertinaci explevit. Aequè in Exulem Carolum atque Regnantem Pius: Causam Regiam etiam afflictam adjuvit. Vir eximia Pietate, Justitia promptaque Beneficentia plenus.*

*Conjux*

Conjux Fidus,  
Pater Sollicitus,  
Judex Integerrimus.

Obijt vicesimo quarto Maij 1697, Anno ætatis sue Octogesimo Tertio Habuit promissum Piorum premium in terris nempe vitam diuturnam, in archam per Jesum Christum cælis æterna.

Huic in Opibus et Titulis successit Franciscus Charlton, Baronettus, filius natu maximus.

On a mural marble monument, underneath a marble bust, is an inscription to the memory of Dorothy, the wife of Sir Job.

In the Churchyard, against the north wall of the church, is the following epitaph, on Mrs. Holland,—

Sweet was thy converse, all thy actions kind,  
Thy person beauteous, and thy mind resign'd ;  
In arts of social life thou did'st excel,  
And what a wife should be thou practis'd well.  
Tho' 'scap'd from life, and cast on that calm shore  
Where pain, and cares, and passion are no more,  
Yet fond affection oft shall drop a tear,  
Till silent time shall place thy mourner here.

A little below the church is

#### LUDFORD HOSPITAL.

This Hospital, which is probably on or near the site of the house which was called St. Giles', was founded by Sir Job Charlton in the year 1672, for six poor and impotent persons, one of whom was to be warden, and the incorporation by indenture, to bear the name or denomination of, "The warden and poor of the Hospital of Ludford." The said warden and poor, by their corporate name, to have the power to purchase and hold lands, and to sue and be sued, and to have a common seal. The founder

der further provided that he and his heirs should have power to nominate the warden and poor as vacancies should occur; and that in default of such heirs, the Bailiffs of Ludlow, and their successors, should have the nomination.

By various Indentures the said Sir Job Charlton conveyed to the warden and poor of the Hospital of Ludford, land and other possessions; property was also consigned to this charity by Sir Francis Charlton in 1774. Since which time other benefactions have been added by the Charlton family. It appears that though the six places are kept constantly filled, the name and distinction of warden, as head of the corporation, have long ceased to exist. The latest instance of the use of the common seal is on a lease of Saunders' meadow in 1646, and the next subsequent lease bears the seal of Sir Francis Charlton.

The "pretty Chapel of St. Catherine," which certainly did formerly stand on Ludford Bridge, has been forgotten for several generations; but the celebrated well of St. Julian, is fresh in the memory of the inhabitants of the village, because, the wonderful cures of diseases believed to have been miraculously performed by it, connected with the ancient superstition, are circumstances so strongly impressive, that the fame of them continues for a long series of ages.

This

This well used to be seen and resorted to, under the garden wall, near the Hospital.

**SALTMORE WELL.**

This is a saline spring below Ludford, on the opposite side of the river, at the foot of a hill. The rural cottage on the premises, is a pleasing and picturesque object, harmonizing with the surrounding scenery, which is extremely beautiful. The water of this spring is found to contain a small quantity of carbonate of iron, with a little sulphate of magnesia, and a considerable portion of muriate of soda.

In scorbutic, and various other disorders, great benefit has been found to arise from the free use of this water, and in all disorders for which an aperient and corroborant medicine is required, it would doubtless prove useful.

Passing along the Worcester road we arrive at the very pleasant villages of Ashford Bowdler and Ashford Carbonel, near each other on opposite sides of the river, and about two miles distant from Ludlow. To the right is

**ASHFORD HALL,**

the residence of T. B. Ricketts, Esq. an elegant modern building, on a rising ground, commanding extensive prospects, and embellished with surrounding plantations. There are also on this side of the river the handsome dwelling houses of Mrs. Richard Green, and Mrs. Jonathan Green: on the opposite side is

## ASHFORD COURT,

the seat of Charles Walker, Esq. And in this neighbourhood is also, a handsome House belonging to John Downes, Esq.

Four miles further on the left, is

## EASTON,

the mansion of D. R. Dansey, Esq. the descendant of the ancient family of the Danseys of Brinsop, in the county of Hereford.

About two miles further, in a pleasant vale on the banks of the Teme, is

## BURFORD HOUSE,

the residence of the Honorable and Rev. G. Rushout.

Two miles from Ludlow, on the western side of the high road to Leominster, is the

## LODGE,

the beautiful seat of Theophilus Richard Salwey, Esq. delightfully situated on an elevated spot, skirted towards the west by some pleasant woods, and commanding an extensive and varied view over a large range of country. The many improvements made in the house, plantations, &c. by this gentleman since it has been in his possession, have considerably increased its beauty. The *facade* of the building is a fine piece of architecture, and the whole of the interior is elegantly finished.

A little further on the left side of the road, is

MOOR



**MOOR PARK,**

which, in the sixteenth century, belonged to the Lyttletons, but is now the property of Richard Salwey, Esq. Lord of the Manor of Richard's Castle. It is in the midst of a fine undulating country, and makes, with the surrounding plantations and groves, a pleasing and picturesque object. The park contiguous to the house, is, by the intermixture of various clumps of trees, a fine sheet of water, and some handsome distant prospects, rendered highly agreeable to the lover of natural landscape.

At a short distance from Moor Park, is the

**HAYS,**

the residence of Mrs. I. C. Salwey, seated on a lofty summit, almost in the midst of the woods. Close to it is a very extensive park, well stocked with deer.

Proceeding on the Leominster road, we come to

**BATCHCOTT,**

the residence of the Rev. R. F. Hallifax, Rector of Richard's Castle, a very pleasant and comfortable mansion, modernized and improved by the present possessor.

**RICHARD'S CASTLE,**

is about three miles from Ludlow. The town contiguous was anciently called Gayton, or Boytanc, until the lustre of the Castle darkened that name, whereby at last the town was called  
by

by the Castle's name. It is evident from various old records, that this was a town of considerable importance until the reign of Henry III; but it now consists only of a few farm houses.

King John granted to Robert de Mortimer a charter for holding both a market and a fair at this place; but both have been so long disused, that no vestige remains, except that there is yet a place called the toll-shop green, near the castle.

"Richard's Castle," says Leland, "standeth upon the top of a very worky hill, well wooded, and at the west end of the parish church there. The Keep, the walls and towers of it stand, but going to ruin. There is a poor house of timber in the Castle-garth for a farmer; it belongeth now to the king, it belonged of late to the Lord Vaux, after to Pope. There is a park impaled."

This Castle was built before the Conquest, by Richard Scrope, in the reign of Edward the Confessor. At the time of the Doomsday survey it was held by Osborn Fitz-Richard, whose grandson assumed the name of Say, and was killed in Wales, in the reign of Richard I. Margaret, his grand-daughter and heir, married Robert de Mortimer, from whose family it also passed by an heiress, to the Talbots, who possessed it till the time of Richard II.

King Edward VI. granted this Manor to Nicholas, Bishop of Worcester, and his heirs. In the fifteenth century, it was possessed by T. Bradshaw, on a long lease from the Bishop. This gentleman married the daughter of Arthur Salwey, Esq. by whom he had issue twenty children, whose grandson sold the lease of the Manor to Richard Salwey, Esq. in which family it still continues.

The interior of the Castle is now converted into a hop-yard: some part of the Keep and walls are still remaining, yet so hidden by the luxuriant wood scenery about them, as scarcely to be discovered until they are nearly approached.

"Beneath this Castle," says Camden, "nature, which no where disporteth itself more in shewing wonders than in waters, hath brought forth a pretty Well, which is always full of little fish bones, or, as some think, of small frog bones, although they be from time to time drawn quite out of it, whence it is called Bone-well."

But this is not correct, for these bones are found generally in spring and autumn, and not at all in the winter.

Upon the declivity of the eminence near the Castle, a body of Royalists, amounting to nearly 2000, under Sir Thomas Lundesford, were defeated in the year 1645, by a force far inferior, headed by Colonel Birch.

The parish Church is dedicated to St. Bartholomew, and had formerly a spire, which was burnt down ; it is contiguous to the Castle, and is a fine old structure, with some beautiful remnants of painted glass.

#### ORLETON

is a pleasant village, seen among orchards, five miles from Ludlow, near the Leominster road.

The Manor was given by the Conqueror to Ranulph de Mortimer, whose descendant, Edward IV, held it distinct from the crown lands, and had a particular seal, even after he became King, for the concerns of the Earldom of March, as appears from a charter of Manumission granted to a *villain* of this place, bearing date 20th August, 1468, the seal of which is preserved, bearing the arms of Burgh quarterly, supported by lions rampant, and surmounted by a crown, with this inscription,—

Sigillum Edwardi Quarti Dei Gra. Regis Anglie, Francie  
Domini, Comitatus Sue Marchie.

After Edward's death, this Manor was annexed to the crown, and was granted by James I. to George Hopton, from whom it passed through several families to the Blounts, and now belongs to W. Blount, M. D. of Hereford.

Here a great Fair is annually held on the 24th of April, where dealers supply themselves with oxen and other cattle for the Northamptonshire markets.

Three miles from Orleton, on the Presteign road, is

## CROFT CASTLE,

the residence of Mrs. Davies, formerly the seat of the Crofts, a family of distinction. Sir Bernard Croft resided here in the reign of King Edward the Confessor, about the year 1000, Sir Jasper, his successor, joining Harold, was deprived of his estate by William the Conqueror, who gave it to his follower William de Swehin. The Croft family afterwards regaining possession, resided here until the conclusion of the last century, when the family became extinct. Two chiefs of this house, Sir Bernard in the tenth, and Sir Herbert in the fifteenth century, retired from the world and entered a benedictine monastery at Douay, where they lived many years in a narrow cell, and were interred in the church belonging to that order, in which their monuments are yet preserved.

An extensive park, famous for its large oak and beech trees, continues along an eminence north from Croft Castle, on which is a British Camp, of an elliptical form, with a double ditch and rampart, called Croft Ambrey, from Ambrosius, a celebrated British hero. From this position the prospect is very extensive, comprehending within its wide circuit thirteen counties.

At the distance of one mile from Croft Castle, and adjoining to the road, is

## LUCTON SCHOOL,

the magnificent foundation of Mr. J. Pierrepont. This School was established by Act of Parliament in the year 1708. It is under the control of eight gentlemen, who hold the following high situations in London, the Common Sergeant, the Master of the Charter House School, the Master of Merchant Tailors' School, the Preacher of the Charter House, the Preacher of Gray's Inn, the Rector of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, the Rector of St. Peter's, Cornhill, and the President of Sion College. These gentlemen form a corporation under the name of "The Governors of Lucton School." They elect a number of Laymen of property, and Clergymen, in the neighbourhood of Lucton, to act as their "Counsellors" or "Assistants," who, every year, in the months of June and December, visit the School, examine the scholars, fill vacancies, and recommend qualified candidates to apprenticeships and University exhibitions. A select number of the Governors meet the Assistants, at intervals, at some of the half-yearly visitations.

There are three superintendents of the School, a Master, an Usher, and a writing Master, who have each of them liberal annual allowances from the Governors. The number of the scholars, when the School has its complement,

is

is 105. These scholars are divided into three classes, or, in the familiar language of the benevolent founder, "Sorts."—The first sort consists of fifty, the sons of parents, resident in the parishes of Lucton, Aymstrey, Shobdon, Kingsland, Yarpole, Croft, and the township of Luston, in the parish of Eye, and whose annual income must not exceed £20. These fifty boys are annually clothed, and they pay no tuition.—The second sort, consists of thirty boys, the sons of parents whose annual income does not exceed £300. They are chosen, as the first sort, from the six parishes and township: but if there be not a sufficient number of candidates found within them, boys from any part of the kingdom are eligible to supply the vacancies.—The second sort is not clothed by the Governors; and each boy pays £1 annually for his tuition. All the paper, copy books and school books, that the boys of the first and second sort use in the School, are gratuitously supplied by the Governors. The boys of both these sorts cannot be admitted on the foundation before seven, nor, we believe, after thirteen years of age. Every year, boys out of these two sorts, are recommended to trades, after they have been four years at least on the foundation. With each boy, thus recommended, a fee of £5 is given at the time of binding; £5 more at the

the termination of two years services; and at the end of seven years, on producing honourable testimonials of integrity and good conduct, an additional bounty of £20. In the whole £80 to each boy. Every two years an exhibition of £75 a year is ready to be given to any duly qualified candidate, from either of the two sorts, to go to any college in either of the two Universities. Each exhibition is limited to four years from the time of admission on the University Rolls.—The third sort consists of the master's boarders, who are limited to twenty-five. They are eligible from any part of the kingdom: but they have no advantage from the apprentice fees and exhibitions, if they be not admitted into either the first or second sorts.

Our little manual will not allow us to give a more extended view of this liberal institution. We will, however, from respect to the memory of the pious founder, subjoin a copy of the epitaph on his monument at Lucton Chapel.

Sacred to the Memory of Mr. John Pierrepont, Vintner and Citizen of London, younger son of Mr. Ralph Pierrepont and Elizabeth his wife of this parish, and originally descended from the Pierreponts in Nottinghamshire; he lived unmarried, and having with the blessing of God and applause of men, gained a plentiful Estate, he retired to his native place to dedicate the greatest part of it to pious uses: The Free School here founded and endowed by him in his life time, and established by Act of Parliament: Divine Service restored to this Chapel by a settled allowance to a Minister, the larger endowment of his Foundation by his last will, his Legacies to the Hospitals of Mile-end, and St. Bartholomew's in London, of which he was a Governor, his provision for the augmentation for ever of poor Vicarages, will all remain as so many lasting Monuments of his truly great and excellent mind, of his natural



small disposition to useful Charity, his love to Arts and Learning, his affection to the Church of England, and of his zeal for God's glory. Thus he lived a most pattern of good works, and died Nov. 15, 1711, in the 58th year of his age.

Mr. Pierrepont's arms on the tomb are, we believe, the same as those of the Kingston family, viz. argent, a lion rampant sable, in an orb of cinquefoils gules.

One mile from Lucton School, is the hamlet of

#### MORTIMER'S CROSS,

situated in a very beautiful valley, near the place where a remarkable battle was fought between the partizans of the rival houses of York and Lancaster. To commemorate this event, a neat Tuscan Pedestal of white stone has been erected, at the distance of one mile from Mortimer's Cross, in an angle of two roads, diverging to Leominster and Stratford Bridge, with the following Inscription,—

This Pedestal is erected to perpetuate the memory of an obstinate, bloody and decisive battle fought near this spot, in the civil wars between the ambitious houses of York and Lancaster, on the second day of February, 1461, between the forces of Edward Mortimer, Earl of March, afterwards Edward IV. on the side of York, and those of Henry VI. on the side of Lancaster. The king's forces were commanded by Jasper, Earl of Penbrooke: Edward commanded his own in person, and was victorious. The slaughter was great on both sides, 4000 being left dead upon the field; and many Welsh persons of the first distinction were taken prisoners, among whom was Owen Tudor, great grandfather to Henry VIII. and a descendant of the illustrious Cadwallader, who was afterwards beheaded at Hereford. This was the decisive battle which fixed Edward IV. upon the throne of England. He was proclaimed King on the 5th of March following.

Erected by Subscription, 1797.

Three miles north of Mortimer's Cross, is

#### WIGMORE.

The situation of this village is very romantic: its

site is the slope of an immense mountain of bare rock, and the streets themselves, are undisturbed masses of stone, which renders them almost impassable for horses and carriages. Upon an eminence to the west, is Wigmore Castle, which was built by Ethelfleda about the year 900, and Edward, the brother of this celebrated and magnanimous lady, is said to have repaired and added to its strength and beauty. Ranulph Mortimer wrested it from Edric Sylvaticus, Earl of Shrewsbury; and through a succession of ages, this family continued to possess vast estates; became great and powerful; and opposing themselves against the regal authority, by their ambition and their intrigues, several of the English monarchs were made to tremble on the throne.

Edward IV, when Duke of York, resided in this Castle: it was given, by King James I, to Thomas Harley, Esq. of Brampton Bryan. This gentleman was grandfather to the Lord Treasurer of that name, from whom it has descended to its present possessor, the Earl of Oxford.

On the hills, west of the Castle, were two Parks, now ploughed up and cultivated.

Wigmore Church is a spacious building, the walls of which are of an apparently artificial compound, cast in moulds, and of a porous texture,

texture, similar to pumice stone. The Abbey, is said to have been founded by Hugh Mortimer, in the year 1179, for Augustine Monks. It was dedicated to St. James. At the dissolution, this religious house shared the fate of those, whose very walls were demolished.

Some time ago there was found, among the ruins of the Abbey Church, a leaden coffin, which contained a human body, apparently perfect in its form, but which, on exposure to the air, crumbled to dust. There were buried in this Church eight descendants of Hugh Mortimer, five of whom were Earls of March. At the old Farm House, called now the Abbey Grange, there used to be shown a fair canopy of wainscot, under which the Abbot used to sit: it was in a large room, called the Abbot's council chamber. The arms of the Mortimer family also appeared over one of the chimney places; and among the outbuildings is a public house, said to have been the Abbot's prison. These buildings are now much altered.

Two annual Fairs are held at Wigmore, on the 6th of May, and on the 5th of August.

Five miles north-west from Ludlow, is

DOWNTON CASTLE,

the property of R. P. Knight, Esq. it was erected by its present possessor between 40 and 50 years ago. It is an edifice of peculiar and externally

ternally irregular form: but internally every part is very conveniently arranged, without waste of space, its towers being, as good taste and reason point out that such parts should be, large enough for human habitation. It stands upon a terrace on the north side of the river Teme, and is elevated about 100 feet above that river, towards which the ground gradually falls. Upon the opposite side of the river, rise the Brindwood hills, having their bases clothed with extensive groves of large timber, intermixed with pasture grounds. Towards the east, the Titterstone Clee Hill rises very magnificently over woods, making the scene from the terrace one of the most grand and beautiful in the island.

The walks of Downton, which are well known, and much visited by travellers, extend to the west, following the course of the river which here occupies a deep ravine, that it appears to have worn during the lapse of ages. Upon the sides of this ravine, the rocks have in places, where the texture has been firm, remained perpendicular over the stream; in other parts they have given way and fallen into the course of the river, and been carried away by its impetuosity. The ground consequently rises from each side of the river, in very various and irregular forms; and it is every where clothed  
with

with timber; and the river, having a considerable descent and being confined within a narrow course ripples over a succession of low falls. Much picturesque scenery is consequently presented, which varies as it is beheld from every successive point.

The walks, which have been made at different elevations along the sides of the ravine, have been conducted with much taste and art, though these will scarcely be seen by the careless observer; for the natural character of the place has been as much preserved as possible, and the direction of the walks appears at first view, to have been regulated by a regard to convenience only.

About a mile from the Castle, is the small village of Downton, in the rural Church-yard of which, is the following beautiful epitaph,—

"Here mould'ring in the cold embrace of death,  
What once was elegance and beauty lies:  
Mute is the music of her tuneful breath,  
And quench'd the radiance of her sparkling eyes.  
A prey to lingering malady she fell,  
Ere yet her form had lost its vernal bloom.  
Her virtues, misery, oft rais'd, may tell;  
The rest, let silent charity entomb.  
Nor suffer busy, unrelenting zeal,  
E'en here, her gentle frailties to pursue:  
Let envy turn from what it cannot feel,  
And malice reverence what it never knew:  
But should the justice of the good and wise  
Condemn her faults, with judgment too severe,  
Let mild-eyed pity from the heart arise,  
And blot the rigid sentence with a tear."

Died March 6, A. D. 1795, aged 21 years and 6 months.

## LEINFWARDINE,

is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river  
Teme;

Teme; eight miles from Ludlow, on the road to Knighton. It lies near the confluence of the Teme and Clun; and from the quantity of fine fish, particularly Greyling, in the surrounding streams, is much resorted to by company from very distant parts, as a fashionable fishing place. It is but a small Town, consisting principally of one long street. The Church, which is large, is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, and was appropriated to the Abbey of Wigmore. Mr. Silas Taylor, in his M. S. informs us that this Church was remarkable for painted glass; and there are still many fine pieces remaining, with crowns, lions, fleur de lis, the arms of Mortimer, &c.

Ten miles from Ludlow, on the Knighton road, is

#### BRAMPTON BRIAN,

so called from the Castle built by Bryan de Brampton, a powerful Norman Lord. The Bramptons held this Lordship till the reign of Edward I, when Margaret, a coheirress, conveyed it to the present family of the Earl of Oxford, by marriage with Robert de Harley. The Castle, a building of great antiquity, continued the principal seat of the Harleys to the time of the civil wars of Charles I, when it twice sustained the attacks of the King's forces, and was ultimately demolished. A curious chimney,

chimney, rising like a turret above the curtain, and a staircase are tolerably perfect, but the other parts of the building are destroyed. The Church has been imperfectly repaired in those parts which were damaged by the siege: it is closely attached to the ruined Keep of the Castle. In the south wall is an altar tomb, on which is extended the effigy of a Lady unknown. Above this is a marble tablet, in memory of Robert Harley, first Earl of Oxford. In the village, is the family mansion of the Harleys, a handsome brick building; and to the west is the park, nearly six miles in circumference.

A short distance from Brampton Brian, is

#### STANAGE PARK,

the seat of Edward Rogers, Esq. M. P. The house is a noble modern edifice, surrounded by a park and pleasure grounds.

#### MARLOW,

is a handsome country house belonging to R. Littlehales, Esq. about eight miles from Ludlow.

In the parish of Leintwardine is

#### HEATH HOUSE,

a genteel seat, placed rather in a low situation, near the banks of the Clun; it has a small park in front. In 1685 it belonged to Mr. J. Edwards, afterwards Sir J. Edwards, who beautified and enlarged it. It afterwards came into the family of the Beales, in which it still continues.

tinues. At some distance towards the north, is

#### HOPTON CASTLE,

the ruins of which, though now small, indicate it to have been formerly a very strong place. It was taken during the civil wars in the reign of Charles I. and was afterwards nearly destroyed; most of the men who composed the garrison were put to the sword, and the governor, Samuel Moor, Esq. was confined as a common prisoner in Ludlow Castle. There exists a manuscript account in the hand-writing of this unfortunate governor, which details the mode of attack and defence at the siege of the Castle. Camden mentions Hopton Castle as having been given with New Castle, Shipton, and Coversham, by Henry II. to Walter de Clifford. In the civil wars just mentioned, it belonged to Mr. Wallop, and was gallantly defended for the Parliament; the siege lasted more than a fortnight. It is now the property of the Proprietor of Heath House.

We next come to the much admired Village of

#### CLUNGUNFORD,

where the seat and park of the Rev. J. Locke, stand preeminent. Proceeding northward, we arrive at

#### SIBDON CASTLE,

a large and pleasant mansion, belonging to James Fleming Baxter, Esq. near to which is the Church.



Church. Lord Littleton, in his letters, observes on visiting Sibdon, "we came to a Gentleman's House on the side of a hill, opening to a sweet valley, which seemed to be built in a taste much superior to that of a mere country Squire. We therefore stopt and desired to see it; which curiosity was well paid for: we found it the neatest and best house, of a moderate size, that we ever saw. The master it seems was bred to the Law, but quitted the profession about fifteen years ago, and retired into the country upon an estate of £500 per annum: (or as the original M. S. relates £1500 per annum) with a wife and four children; notwithstanding which incumbrances, he found means to fit up the house, in the manner we saw it, with remarkable elegance, and to plant all the hills about him with groves and clumps of trees, that, together with an admirable prospect seen from it, renders it a place which a monarch might envy. But to let you see how vulgar minds value such improvements, I must tell you an answer made by our guide, who was servant to Lord Powis's Steward, and spoke I presume, the sense of his master; upon our expressing some wonder that this gentleman had been able to do so much with so small a fortune;—I do not, said he, know how it is, but he is always doing some nonsense or another."

This

This place has been justly celebrated, as commanding an extensive prospect over a singularly interesting tract of country; wood-crowned hills, fruitful vales, venerable ruins; the humble cottage of the labourer, and the stately mansion of the opulent, diversify the scene; which is rendered yet more attractive by the wild grandeur of the Cambrian hills, on which, though distant, imagination beholds the yet remaining vestiges of British fortresses, raised by the celebrated chief whose fame inspired the sons of song, to tell how—

“With eyes on fire  
 Caradoc rushed upon the foe;  
 He reared his arm, he laid the mighty low.  
 O’er the plain see he urges his gore-stained steed,  
 They bleed! the Romans bleed!  
 He lifts his lance on high,  
 They fly! the fierce invaders fly!  
 Fear not now the horse or spear,  
 Fear not now the foeman’s might;  
 Victory the cry shall hear  
 Of those who for their country fight;  
 O’er the slain  
 That strew the plain,  
 Stern on her sable war-horse shall she ride,  
 And lift her red right hand in their heart’s blood deep dy’d.”

A little to the south-east of Sibdon Castle is

#### STOKE CASTLE,

improperly indeed called a Castle, but constituting a curious specimen of the castellated mansion of former days. It has suffered a degradation not uncommon to places of ancient note; part of it being used as an out-house to an adjoining farm, and the rest suffered to fall into decay.

A gate-house constructed of wooden framework, with curious carvings, leads to a quadrangular court, on one side of which, are remains of the rampart, and the other sides are occupied by the house, the offices, and the tower; the whole building is moated round. The hall and tower are opposite to the gate-house, which exhibit in their ruins, striking traces of beauty and grandeur. The hall measures 54 by 32 feet; the entrance from the court is by a door-way with a pointed arch; the lofty windows of this spacious room are divided by single mullions, the heads pointed and filled with plain circles. There is no vestige of a fire place, the ancient mode of warming apartments of this description being by a reredoss, or brazier, filled with burning charcoal, and placed in the centre; the smoke arising from this domestic apparatus has completely blackened the wood work. At one end is the gallery for the minstrelsy on days of rejoicing, under which is a door leading to the buttery. The high table was on the opposite southern side of the room. A plain low porch of wood and plaister leads from the south-east angle by a stair-case to the great chamber, or withdrawing room, which measures 29 by 19 feet; the wainscot is of oak, with intermediate ornamental pilasters. The chimney-piece is richly

richly carved in wood, with busts of tight-laced ladies, and whiskered knights, surrounded by embossed shields and foliage. This apartment is conjectured to have been newly fitted up about the end of the sixteenth century. The tower, which is of a singular form, rises from the south-west corner of the court. It is an irregular polygon, which, by its receding angles, produces a romantic and pleasing effect. It is lofty, and crowned with an embattled parapet; the ground floor is a low gloomy apartment, lighted by four small pointed windows, and the two upper stories are divided into very small rooms. There is also the ground story of a square tower, with numerous small rooms, in which are the remains of ancient workmanship.

This mansion was garrisoned for Charles I, and occupied by forces commanded by Danvers, who served under Sir Michael Woodhouse, Governor of Ludlow; and Sir William Croft fell here, in a rencounter with the Parliamentary forces, on the 9th of June, 1645. Stoke Castle was inhabited, in 1678, by Sir Samuel Baldwyn, Sergeant at Law, and a descendant of the same family now holds this place, on a lease from Earl Craven.

Near Stoke Castle, on the Road to Ludlow, is the pleasant village of

ONIBURY.

## ONIBURY.

The tower of its rural Church is overshadowed with ivy, and the surrounding scenery is of the most interesting description.

There is a school at this place, first established in 1593, by Mr. William Norton, who by will bequeathed to it the sum of £6:6:8 yearly; which, with an additional allowance from the parish funds, is advanced to the yearly stipend of £12. The Rector has also further added a convenient house and garden, originally belonging to the parsonage house.

The scholars are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic, and the school is free for the admission of all who apply.

## STONE HOUSE,

is about four miles from Ludlow, near the Shrewsbury road. This retired country house is the occasional residence of the Earl of Powis.

## FERNEY HALL,

belonging to Mrs. Sitwell, and now occupied by General Lloyd, is placed on an eminence, and commands a fine view of the extensive kind, towards the east, including Oakley Park, and the Town and Castle of Ludlow, with the Clee Hills, and other distant objects.

## BROMFIELD

is a village two miles from Ludlow, in the vicinity,

nity, and partaking of the rural elegance of Oakley Park. This place was formerly distinguished by its Priory, which is understood to have been situated near, or adjoining to, the present Church. The establishment here in the time of Henry I. about the year 1100, consisted of a small College of Prebendaries or secular Canons. Osbertus Prior of Bromfield, is witness to a deed before the year 1148. This Priory seems to have quickly risen to importance, for it is recorded that Henry II. granted to it his Church in Bromfield, which was dedicated to the blessed St. Mary, with his royal licence, and protection of their extensive possessions of the towns and lands of Haverford, Dinchope, Efford, Felton, Burghey, and Lethewic; three prebends in Bromfield and three in Halton; and by another Charter he confirms to them their Hays and Liberties in Mocktree-wood, Ailriches-wood, Kanewood, Dinchope, and Esrugge, to wit, from Eilfichway to Ludford along the Rudgeway; to hold to them, with all liberties to free Hays belonging, &c. In these Charters the following names occur,—“Frethericus Clericus de Bureford, Robertus Coleman de Pontesbury, Edrick's Presbiter de Bromfield, Robert's Presbiter de Felthune.

In the year 1155, the second of Henry II, the Prior and Brothers of the Priory of Bromfield, placed

placed themselves under the government of the Benedictine Monastery near Gloucester, called Lanthony Secunda, and became Benedictines, and continued so to the time of the general dissolution.

At the Assizes of Salop, 20th Edward I, the Prior of Bromfield claimed free warren, in the manor of Bromfield, by Charter of Henry II, which was allowed. The said Charter comprised also a grant of Infangthef, and a jury found one Henry de la Chapele guilty of theft, who was tried and condemned by the Prior, and hanged in Bromfield.

This Priory was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and valued at the dissolution at £78 : 19 : 4. It was granted to Charles Foze, fourth of Philip and Mary; and Sir Charles Foze sold it in the seventh of James I, to Richard Tomlines, Gent. from whom it afterwards passed to the ancestor of the present Earl of Powis. The Living of Bromfield is now a Vicarage, rated in the King's books at £6, patron, the Honourable R. H. Clive. The Court of Augmentation, decreed the Vicar of Bromfield a yearly pension from the dissolved Monastery of Gloucester; and there are, in vellum books, in the King's remembrancer's office, accounts of several decrees, relating to the possessions of the Priory and the rights of the Vicar of this place.

OAKLEY

## OAKLEY PARK,

the noble seat of the Honourable Robert Henry Clive, M. P. is delightfully situated on the banks of the Teme. The greater part of the mansion is of modern construction, and extensive improvements have been made by the present possessor. It is elegantly furnished and contains some fine paintings.

The surrounding grounds are extremely romantic and beautiful, and the plantations near the house, laid out with taste and judgment, to the pleasing variety of which, the meanderings of the river add very considerably. There are many fine views in different directions : that toward the south-east, presenting a distant prospect of Ludlow Castle, is peculiarly rich.

The park, which formerly contained nine hundred acres, and is supposed to have included within its circuit the Priory to which it originally belonged, is yet very extensive. It is finely adorned with groves of some of the stateliest oaks in the kingdom, lying promiscuously, in woods and clumps, and on the sides of the river.

The Lordship of Bromfield is coextensive with the parish, and its Chapelry of Halford and Dinchope, and the township of Ledwich : on the south it is bounded by Herefordshire ; on the west, by the parish of Onibury ; on the north, by Stanton Lacy, and on the east, by the town  
of



of Ludlow, to the walls of which it adjoins.

Through this Manor flow the rivers Teme, Oney, and Corve, the former through the park and beside the house; the others passing into it in the immediate vicinity. These are esteemed the best fishing streams in the kingdom, and the woods and lands afford Hares, Pheasants, Partridges, Bustards or Wild Turkeys, Wild Ducks, and game of all kinds in abundance.

**STANTON LACY HOUSE,**

this elegant mansion has been enlarged and modernized, and tasteful and judicious embellishments introduced in the extensive gardens, by the present proprietor, J. H. Holder, Esq.

**BRICK HOUSE,**

at present occupied by Mr. Urwick, who has lately established, in this very pleasant and healthy situation, a Boarding School for boys.

**STANTON LACY,**

is two miles from Ludlow beyond the Race Ground. Part of this village, with Langley, Rockele, (now Rockley) &c. formerly belonged to the Monastery of Lanthony, of Gloucester.

In the year 1814, Richard Nash, Esq. of Ludlow, bequeathed £100 to the poor of this parish, the interest of which is distributed on Christmas Day annually; and an excellent Benefit Society has lately been established under the auspices of J. H. Holder, Esq. for the purpose of raising

ing, from time to time, by subscription of the several members thereof, and by voluntary contributions, a fund, for the mutual relief and support of the members, in old age, sickness, and infirmity. In this parish, on the hill below Hayton's Bent, a number of small houses constitute the sylvan hamlet of Hope: the water which forms the rivulet falling from this elevation, in its passage through rocks, becomes strongly impregnated with carbonate of lime, and is found to possess the property of forming petrifications, of such articles as are placed under it to receive its depositions.

Leaving Stanton Lacy, we successively arrive at the village of Culmington, at the distance of four miles, Seifton five, Corfton six, and

**DIDDLEBURY,**

the genteel seat of the Bishop of Worcester, seven miles from Ludlow.

**DOWNTON HALL,**

belonging to Sir William Edward Rouse Boughton, Bart. M. P. stands on elevated ground, surrounded by extensive plantations. It is about three miles north-east from Ludlow.

**HENLEY HALL,**

the residence of the Rev. S. Johnes Knight, is a large brick building, two miles from Ludlow, on the Cleobury road. On the south front extends

tends a well-wooded park, with walks and plantations. The river Ledwich passes close by the house, where it is made to form an agreeable fall, thereby adding to the beauty of the scenery. At a short distance, is

## BITTERLEY COURT,

belonging to the Rev. J. Walcot, charmingly situated on rising ground at the foot of the Clee Hill, surrounded by pleasure grounds. The Titterstone rising on the north-east forms a grand and prominent object, and the prospect toward Ludlow, over a rich and well-cultivated tract of country, is highly pleasing. Near the house is the Church, in which are found records of various charities; that of Sergeant Powis, afterwards Judge Powis, who bequeathed £50; of Mr. Richard Page, of Park Hall, who bequeathed £10; and of Mrs. Ann Sheppard, of Middleton, who bequeathed to the poor of Bitterley the sum of £500. In the adjoining village of

## BITTERLEY,

is a well-established School, under the superintendence of Mr. T. Williams. To this School, Mr. John Newborough, head master of Eton School, left the sum of £400 by will dated January 18th, 1712, and with £300 of this money a purchase was made of a farm at Kerry in Montgomeryshire, called Little Perth-y-bae. The management of this estate is left entirely to

to the master of the School, to whose use the rent is appropriated. The farm consists of about 36 acres, and was lately let for £34 per annum. The remaining £100 was partly expended in repairs of the premises, but part of it amounting to about £50 is lost, or at least cannot be clearly accounted for. The original endowment of this School was almost exclusively for the teaching of Latin, but it had by degrees become a mere English School at the time when the present master was appointed, who being well qualified for the undertaking, attempted to restore it to its original state, but the parents of the children discouraged the attempt. On account of the pleasant and healthy situation, comfortable accommodations, and good management of Bitterley School, boarders are sent from various other parishes who are well instructed in Writing and Arithmetic, and Greek and Latin, on very moderate terms.

THE TITTERSTONE CLERE HILL, is five miles from Ludlow, and rises to the height of 1800 feet. The summit of it, on which was formerly a Roman Camp, affords very extensive prospects on every side, bounded by different ranges of distant hills, so that on a clear day no less than thirteen or fourteen counties are to be seen with the naked eye; but the sides (as Lord Littleton observes) are more difficult to pass than almost any of the

Welch hills, being covered with loose stones, or rather with pieces of rocks, which from their extraordinary magnitude must have required an immense force to throw them in the different directions in which we find them scattered. The extreme point, called Titterstone, which comprehends a space of nearly an acre and half of ground, is supposed to have been formed by a volcano. The rugged exterior of this hill, is compensated by the great quantity of coal and iron-stone, found within it; with the former of which, of a very excellent quality, the surrounding country is supplied.

The Collieries are chiefly on the south, and north-east sides of the Clee Hill, and in sinking the deepest pit on the first of these, the following strata occur.—Earth, sandstone-rock, and basalt, called jewstone, 75 yards; sandstone-rock, bind, clunch, and coal-roof, 23 yards; the great coal, 2 yards; coal-bottom and iron-stone-roof, 1 yd. 1 ft. ironstone 1 yd. 6 inches; three-quarters coal, 1 ft. 6 in. clumper, 2 yds. smith's coal, 1 yd. 2 ft. smith's coal-bottom, down to the four feet coal-rock, 2 ft. in all 107 yards 1 foot. In the deepest pit on the other side of the hill, it is necessary to sink 116 yards before coal can be found, the vein is however 6 feet thick. The whole depth of this pit is 137 yards, and from the great coal to the bottom there are 10 feet of mixed coal veins.

Opposite the north-east side of the Clee Hill, is  
**HOPTON COURT.**

the seat of T. Botfield, Esq. near which is the village of Hopton Wafers; remarkable as giving a singular instance of longevity in William Hyde, who residing here, lived to the advanced age of 106 years. He enjoyed health and activity nearly to the last, and had sons upwards of 80 years old at the time of his decease in 1798.

The celebrated William Henry West Betty, arose from this obscure village; beginning his career at eleven years of age: and after successively performing to crowded theatres, at Belfast, Clonmel, Waterford, Cork, and Dublin: in Scotland, at Edinburgh and Glasgow: and in London, and most of the principal towns and cities in England, he wisely retired from public observation and applause, to pursue a course of academical studies in order to qualify himself for some more honourable and useful profession.

To the south of the Clee Hill, is

**COURT OF HILL,**

an ancient family mansion, lately occupied by J. Fowler, Esq. and in the same neighbourhood, near the village of Hope Bagot, we arrive at the antique mansion of

**WHITTON**



#### WHITTON COURT,

this was the seat of the Charlton family previous to their occupation of Ludford. It is a very fine specimen of what is called Queen Elizabeth's style of architecture, though it is supposed to have been built by Sir Robert Charlton in the early part of the reign of Charles I. At present it is only inhabited by a tenant of E. L. Charlton, Esq. though it still retains vestiges of its pristine celebrity, having an extensive park, round which there is a brick wall, and a very fine drawing room, hung to this day with the Tapestry, which in times past, probably, bore witness to many an entertainment that

*"Blazed with lights, and bray'd with minstrelsy."*

Descending the hill we arrive at the scattered village of Caynham, in which is

CAYNHAM

## CAYNHAM COURT,

three miles distant from Ludlow. This elegant mansion is the residence of Mrs. Calcott. It is surrounded by plantations, shrubberies and walks, and situated in a very pleasant district. On Caynham Camp, is the site of an ancient Castle, noticed by Leland, who says of it, "Kainsham, or Kensham Castle, cene down, stood within two miles of Ludloe, on a hill top." "It belonged," says Camden, "to the Mortimers, and the Church to Wigmore Abbey." Two fields on the east side are yet called the Castle fields; and immediately below is another in which a deep and wide entrenchment occupies the principal part. Tradition says that this latter was a depository for horses and military stores during the siege of Ludlow Castle, by Cromwell. On the top of the hill, is a bank covered with trees and underwood, and encircling an open space, consisting of six or seven acres. Around this there is a walk, with benches, opposite to which are openings, commanding most delightful prospects, not only of the local beauties of the neighbourhood of Ludlow, but of Malvern Hill, the Black Mountains in Brecknockshire, and other distant objects.

One mile from Caynham, is, the

## SHEET,

a modern and pleasant edifice raised from the  
ruins



ruins of an old Farm House, the property of W. Adams, Esq. A little to the south-west, is

STEVENTON COTTAGE,

placed on the brow of an eminence, overhanging the river Teme, and commanding an extensive prospect over part of Herefordshire to the left, and to the right overlooking the town of Ludlow. This romantic secluded spot is part of the Steventon demesne, belonging to E. L. Charlton, Esq. and has for many years been occupied by Mr. E. Prodgers.

NEW BATH, AT SALTMORE.

The want of convenience for bathing, at Saltmore, has long been lamented; because, judging from analogy, no one can doubt that it must prove equally as powerful as sea-water, and applicable to the same useful purposes. On this account, we anticipate the satisfaction individuals and the public will feel, when informed that proper accommodations are now completed at Saltmore Cottage, for cold or warm bathing. In cutaneous affections, scrophula, chronic rheumatism, paralysis, and above all in disorders incident to young females, the greatest advantages may reasonably be expected from this bath in a warm or tepid state; and for all purposes in which the cold immersion may safely be used, it deserves preference.

## LIST OF PLANTS,

found in the Neighbourhood of Ludlow, especially such as are rare; together with the native GRASSES growing in this district.



- Achillea*, species varie. Yarrow  
*Aconitum napellus*, Monk's Hood. Poughnill  
*Adoxa moschatellina*, Tuberous Moschatel. Near Ludlow  
*Adiantum Capillus-veneris*, Madenhair. Ludford.  
*Egopodium podagraria*, Gout Wort. Castle walk  
*Agrimonia eupatoria*, Agrimony  
*Agrostemma githago*, Corn cockle  
*Agrostis*, species varie. Bent Grass  
*Aira*, *ibid.* Hair Grass  
*Ajuga reptans*, Common Bugle  
*Ajuga chamæpitys*, Germanander  
*Alchemilla vulgaris et arvensis*, Ladies' Mantle  
*Alisma natans*, Floating Water Plantain. Near Tenbury  
*Alisma plantago et damasonium*. Near Ludlow  
*Allium ursinum*, Wild Garlic. Caynham Camp  
*Alopecurus pratensis*, Meadow Foxtail Grass  
*Anagallis arvensis*, Scarlet Pimpernel  
*Anemone nemorosa*, Wood Anemony  
*Anthoxanthum odoratum*, Sweet-scented Vernal Grass  
*Anthemis*, species var. Chamomile  
*Anthyllis vulneraria*, Lady's Finger  
*Antirrhinum linaria*, Toad Flax  
*Antirrhinum majus*, Great Snapdragon. In Frog Lane  
*Antirrhinum cymbalaria*, Ivy-leaved Snapdragon. Ludlow  
*Artemisia absinthium et vulgaris*, Wormwood and Mugwort. Ashford  
*Arundo*, species var. Reed [Corve  
*Asperugo procumbens*, Trailing Catchweed. Junction of Teme and  
*Asperula odorata*, Sweet Woodroof. Whitecliff Coppice  
*Asplenium scolopendrium*, Hart's Tongue. Ludford  
*Asplenium ceterach et trichomanes*. On walls in Ludlow  
*Asplenium adiantum nigrum et ruta muraria*. Ludlow  
*Astragalus*, species var. Liquorice Vetch  
*Atriplex*, *ibid.* Orache  
*Avena*, *ibid.* Oat-grass  
  
*Barbula rigida*. Wigmore  
*Berberis vulgaris*, Barberry. Whitecliff  
*Betonica officinalis*, Betony. The Brinks  
*Bidens cernua*, Water Agrimony. Poughnill

- Bidens tripartita*, Bur Marygold. Ashford  
*Borago officinale*, Borage  
*Brassica*, species var.  
*Briza media et minor*, Cow-quakes  
*Bromus*, species var. Broom Grass  
*Brionia dioica*, Red-berried Briony  
  
*Campanula rotundifolia*, trachelium et petula, Bell Flower. Near Ludlow, on Caynham Camp, &c.  
*Cardamine*, species var.  
*Cancalis* *ibid.* Hen's Foot  
*Centaurea cyanus*, Blue Bottle  
*Centaurea*, species var.  
*Cerastium*, *ibid.* Mouse-ear  
*Cherophyllum*, *ibid.* Chervil  
*Chara*, *ibid.* Stonewort  
*Cheiranthus fruticosus*, Wall-flower. Ludlow  
*Chelidonium majus*, Great Celandine. Ludlow  
*Chenopodium bonus Henricus*, Good Henry. Castle Walk  
*Chironia centaurum*, Centuary. Caynham  
*Chlora perfoliata*, Yellow-wort. Near Saltmore Well (eye  
*Chrysanthemum leucanthemum et segetum*, White and Yellow Ox-  
*Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, Golden Saxifrage  
*Cicuta virosa*, Hemlock. Banks of the Teme  
*Circea lutetiana*, Enchanter's Nightshade  
*Clematis vitalba*, Traveller's Joy. Leintal  
*Cochlearia armoracia*, Horse Radish. Beside the Teme  
*Colchicum autumnale*, Meadow Saffron  
*Convolvulus sepium et arvensis*, Bindweed  
*Cotyledon umbilicus*, Navelwort. Ludford  
*Comarum palustre*, Marsh Cinquefoil. Bedston and other places  
*Cynoglossum officinale*, Hound's Tongue. Ludford  
*Cynosurus*, species var. Dog's Tail Grass  
*Cyperus*, *ibid.* Cyperus Grass  
  
*Dactylis stricta et glomerata*, Cock's Foot Grass  
*Daphne mezereum et laureola*, Whitecliff Coppice  
*Datura stramonium*, Caynham  
*Dentaria bulbifera*, Caynham Camp  
*Dianthus caryophyllus*, Clove Pink. Walls of Ludlow Castle  
*Dianthus deltoides*, Maiden Pink. Ludford  
*Digitalis purpurea*, Fox-glove. Whitecliff  
*Dipsacus sylvestris et pilosus*, Teasel  
*Draba*, species var. Whitlow Grass  
*Drosera rotundifolia*, Round-leaved Sundew.  
  
*Echium vulgare*, Viper Grass. Near Ludlow  
*Elatine hydropiper*, Small Waterwort [Near Ludlow  
*Epilobium angustifolium, hirsutum, et species var.* Willow Herb.  
*Equisetum*, species var. Horse-tail. Near Ludlow  
*Erica*, *ibid.* Heath  
*Erigeron acre*, Blue Flea-bane. On Walls in Ludlow  
*Erigeron canadense*, Canada Flea-bane. On the road to Caynham  
*Erysimum*, species var.  
*Eupatorium cannabinum*, Hemp Agrimony. Poughnall  
*Euphorbia*, species var.  
*Euphrasia officinalis*, Eyebright

Festuca,

- Festuca*, species var. *Festue-grass*  
*Fragaria sterilis et vesca*, Strawberry  
*Fumaria*, species var. *Fumitory*  
*Galanthus nivalis*, Snowdrop  
*Galeobdolon luteum*, Yellow Anchangel  
*Galeopsis tetrahit*, Hemp Nettle. Near Ludlow  
*Galeopsis versicolor*, Bes Nettle. Caynham Camp  
*Galeopsis*, species var.  
*Galium*, *ibid* Crosswort [Whin  
*Genista, tinctoria, pilosa, et anglica*, Broom, Broom-weed and Petty  
*Gentiana amarella*, Autumnal Gentian. Caynham Camp  
*Geranium lucidum, sanguineum et species var.* Crane's bill. Castle  
 Walk and neighbourhood of Ludlow  
*Geum urbanum et rivale*, Avena. *Ibid*.  
*Glechoma hederacea*, Ground Ivy  
*Gnaphalium*, species var. Cudweed  
*Hedysarum onobrychis*, Saintfoin. Tinker's Hill  
*Heleborus viridis et foetida*, Helebore  
*Meracium spondylium*, Cow Parsnip  
*Hieracium*, species var. Hawkweed  
*Hippuris vulgaris*, Mare's Tail  
*Holcus mollis, lanatus et avenaceus*, Soft Grass  
*Hordeum*, species var. Rye Grass  
*Humulus lupulus*, The Hop  
*Hyacinthus non-scriptus*, Hyacinth  
*Hydrocharis morsus-rane*, Frog-bit  
*Hyoscyamus niger*, Henbane  
*Hypericum*, species var. St. John's Wort  
*Jasione montana*, Sheep's Scabius, Steventon  
*Inula helenium*, Elecampane. Caynham and Bitterley  
*Iris pseud-acorus*, Yellow Flag. Near Ludlow  
*Isatis tinctoria*, Woad. Near the Weeping Cross  
*Juniperus*, Juniper  
*Lactuca scariola et virosa*, Wild Lettuce. Near Ludlow  
*Lamium album et purpureum*, Dead Nettle  
*Lathraea squamaria*, Greater Toothwort. Bitterley  
*Lathyrus*, species var. Vetchling or Wild Pea [sterone  
*Lichen geographicus, ventosus, omphalodes, laspidus, et fragilis*. Tit-  
*Lichen niger, ferrugineus, ericetorum, byssoides, boconmyces, tartare-*  
*us, perellus, concentricus, scruposus, punctatus, excavatus, hyp-*  
*norum, sphaerocephalus, crispus, cristatus, subumbricatus, veno-*  
*sus, calicaris, floridus, scrobiculatus, et sinuatus*. Whitecliff,  
 Ludford Park, &c.  
*Linum perenne et catharticum*, Flax. Near Ludlow  
*Lithospermum arvense et officinale*, Gromwell. Ludford, &c.  
*Lotium*, species var. Ray Grass  
*Lotus corniculatus*, Bird's Foot Clover  
*Lycopsis arvensis*, Small Bugloss. Near Ludlow  
*Lynalis diodes et floccenculi*. Near Ludlow  
*Lysimachia nummularia*, Moneywort  
*Lycopus europaea*, Gypsywort.  
*Malva*, species var. Mallow  
 Marrubium

*Marrubium vulgare*, White Horseweed, Near the Race Ground

*Matricaria parthenium*, Feverfew

*Medicago*, species var. Medick

*Melampyrum sylvaticum* et species var. Cow-Wheat

*Melica uniflora* et nutans, Melic

*Mentha*, species var.

*Menyanthes trifoliata*, Marsh Buck-Bean. Stevenston

*Mercurialis perennis* et annua, Mercury

*Mysotis arvensis* et palustris, Mousse-ear

*Nepeta cataria*, Nep

*Oenanthe*, species var. Dropwort

*Ononis spinosa* et arvensis, Rest-harrow

*Ophioglossum vulgatum*, Adder's Tongue. Poughnill

*Ophrys*, species var.

*Orchis bifolia*, maculata, et species var.

*Origanum vulgare*, Marjoram. Near the Paper Mill

*Ornithopus perpusillus*, Bird's-foot. Whitecliff

*Orobancha major*, Broom-rape. Tinker's Hill

*Orobis sylvaticus* et tuberosus, Bitter Vetch. Whitecliff Coppice

*Osmunda lunaria*, Moonwort. Near Ludlow

*Oxalis acetosella*, Wood Sorrel

*Panicum*, species var. Panick grass

*Parietaria officinalis*, Pellitory. Ludlow

*Paris quadrifolia*, Herb Paris. Haywood

*Pedicularis palustris* et sylvatica, Louse-wort

*Phellandrium aquaticum*, Water-hemlock

*Phleum pratense* et species var. Timothy grass

*Picris echioides* et hieracioides, Ox-tongue

*Plantago*, species var. Plantain

*Poa*, *ibid.*, Meadow-grass

*Polygonum bistorta*, et species var. The bistorta, Opposite the Castle

*Polypodium*, species var.

*Polytricum*, *idem.* Golden Maidenhair

*Potamogeton*, *idem.* Pond Weed

*Potentilla verna*, Spring Cinquefoil

*Potentilla rupestris*, et species var. Cinquefoil

*Primula vulgaris*, *elation*, et *officinalis*. Primrose, Cowslip and Oxlip

*Prunella vulgaris*, Self-heal

*Pteris crista* et *aquilina*, Female Fern

*Pulmonaria officinalis*, Lungwort. Caynham

*Pyrola rotundifolia* et *minor*, Wintergreen. Whitecliff Coppice

*Ranunculus ficaria*, *flammula*, *auricomus*, *aquifolius* et species var.

Crow-foot

*Receda luteola*, Dyer's Weed. Caynham

*Rhamnus catharticus* et *frangula*, Buckthorn

*Ribes*, species var. Currant and Gooseberry

*Rosa*, *ibid.*, The Rose

*Rubia tinctorum*, Wild Madder

*Rubus vulgaris* et *minor*, Bramble

*Sagittaria sagittifolia*, Arrowhead

*Salix*, species var. The Willow

*Sanguisorba officinalis*, Wild Burnet  
*Sanicula europæa*, Sanicle  
*Saponaria officinalis*, Soapwort. Steventon  
*Satyrium viride*, Frog Satyrion. Near Ludlow  
*Saxifraga granulata*, Castle Walk  
*Saxifraga hypnoides*, Titterstone  
*Saxifraga tridactylites*, Ludlow  
*Scabiosa*, species var. Scabious  
*Scandix*, species var. Shepherd's Needle  
*Schoenus*, species var. Rush Grass  
*Scirpus sylvaticus*, Wood Rush  
*Scieranthus annuus et perennis*, Knot Grass  
*Scrophularia nodosa et vernalis*, Figwort  
*Scutellaria galericulata et minor*, Sculscap. Oakley Park, and other [places  
*Sedum telephium et rupestre*, Stone-crop. Titterstone  
*Sedum acre, et reflexum*, Ludlow  
*Sempervivum*, House Leek. Ludlow  
*Senecio vulgaris, jacobea et species var.*  
*Serapias latifolia*, Helleborine. Near Oakley Park.  
*Serratula tinctoria*, Saw Wort  
*Sherardia arvensis*, Little Field-madder  
*Sinapis*, species var. Mustard  
*Sison segetum*, Honewort  
*Sisymbrium tenuifolium*, Wall-rocket. Ludlow  
*Sium*, species var. Water Parsnip  
*Smyrnum olusatrum*, Alexanders  
*Solanum dulcamara et nigrum*, Nightshade  
*Solidago virgaurea*, Golden Rod. Near Ludlow  
*Sonchus*, species var. Sow-thistle  
*Sparganium*, species var. Bur-reed  
*Spartium scoparium*, Broom  
*Spergula*, species var. Spurrey  
*Spirea ulmaria*, Meadow-sweet  
*Stachys*, species var. Woundwort  
*Stellaria* *ibid.* Start-wort  
*Symphytum officinale*, Comfrey

*Tamus communis*, Black Briony  
*Tanacetum vulgare*, Tansey  
*Teucrium scorodonia et scordium*, Wood Sage and Water Germander  
*Thalictrum*, species var. Wild Rue  
*Thlaspi*, *ibid.* Shepherd's Purse, &c.  
*Thymus serpyllum et acinos*, Thyme. Whitecliff  
*Tormentilla officinalis et reptans*, Tormentil  
*Tragopogon pratense*, Goat's Beard. Castle Walk  
*Trichomanes brevisetum*, Goldilocks. Ludford Park Wall  
*Trifolium*, species var. Trefoil  
*Triticum*, species var. Couch-grass  
*Turritis glabra et hirsuta*, Wall Cress, Ludlow  
*Tussilago farfara*, Coltsfoot  
*Typha latifolia et angustifolia*, Cats-tail, Oakley Park

*Ulex europæus*, Whin  
*Urtica dioica pilulifera et urens*, Nettle

*Vaccinium myrtillus*, Bilberry. Whitecliff Coppice  
*Valeriana officinalis, locusta et dentata*, Valerian  
*Verbascum-thapsus, blattaria et virgatum*, Mullein

Verbena officinalis, Vervain. Near the Weeping Cross  
 Veronica, species var. Speedwell  
 Viola, ibid. Tare  
 Vinca minor, Small Periwinkle  
 Viola lutea, Yellow Violet. Titterstone  
 Viola odorata, canina et tricolor  
 Viscum album, White Mistletoe  
 Xanthium strumarium, Lesser Burdock



## BANKS.

Messrs. Coleman & Wellings, who draw on  
 Sir John Lubbock & Co. Mansion House Street.

Messrs. Prodgers, who draw on Marsh, Sib-  
 bald, Stracey & Co. No. 6, Berner's Street.

The Market Day is on a Monday; though  
 there are also inferior Markets on Wednesday,  
 Friday and Saturday. The Fairs are seven in  
 number; Monday before February 13th, Tues-  
 day before Easter, May 1st, Wednesday in  
 Whitsuntide week, August 21st, September  
 28th, and December 6th.



*The going Out, and coming In of Mails, Stage  
 Coaches, Waggon, &c.*

## FROM THE CROWN HOTEL.

A Royal Mail to London, through Worcester,  
 every morning at six o'clock, Monday excepted,  
 and returns to Ludlow at five o'clock the same  
 evenings. Letters, &c. to go by this Mail must  
 be put in the Post Office by ten o'clock the  
 preceding Night.

A Coach to Shrewsbury every day at twelve o'clock, except Saturday. On Monday, Wednesday and Friday, this Coach carries the Mail Bags.

A Coach to Hereford, every day at twelve o'clock, Saturday excepted, where it meets Coaches from various parts of England and South Wales.

A Coach to Aberystwith, every Wednesday and Saturday mornings at four o'clock, during the bathing season.

#### FROM THE ANGEL INN.

The Aurora Post Coach to London, through Worcester, every evening at three o'clock, returns the following day at one.

#### WAGGONS, &c.

Robert's London Waggon, sets out from his Warehouse in Corve Street, every Monday evening at eight o'clock, and arrives at the George Inn, Smithfield, on Saturday morning: sets out on return early on Sunday morning, and arrives here on the Friday evening following.

The Bishop's Castle Waggon goes out from this Warehouse every Sunday morning, and returns on Monday.

The Knighton Waggon goes out from this Warehouse on Sunday evening, and returns on Monday.

Maxon's Manchester Waggon starts from his Warehouse



Warehouse every Tuesday and Friday nights for Shrewsbury, Chester and Manchester, and returns on Wednesday and Saturday evenings. This Waggon goes out every Monday and Thursday mornings to Leominster, with Goods for Hereford, Brecknock, Monmouth, and all South Wales, and returns the same evening.

Weaver's & Hughes's Waggon's carry parcels to and from Bewdley three times a week.

Robinson's Worcester Waggon comes in on Monday morning, and returns the same evening.

Woodhouse's Cart to Knighton twice a week.

Sharman's Caravan from Stourport comes in on Monday at noon, and returns on Tuesday morning.

The Bishop's Castle Mail Cart goes out on Sunday, Wednesday and Friday evenings at six o'clock, returns the following evenings at nine; and on Tuesday morning goes out at eight o'clock, and returns the same evening.

Eddowes's Shrewsbury Journal is brought here on Wednesday evening at seven o'clock.

Wright's Hereford Journal, also, on Wednesday about the same time.

Tymb's Worcester Journal arrives on Thursday evening, about the same time.

Watton's Shrewsbury Chronicle arrives on Friday night.

Holl's Worcester Herald arrives on Saturday evening at eight o'clock.